



MARTIAL WORLD

BOOK 08

Cocooned Cow

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Martial World

(Wuji Tianxia)

(武极天下)

by

Cocooned Cow

(蚕茧里的牛)

Synopsis

In the Realm of the Gods, countless legends fought over a mysterious cube. However, after the battle it disappeared into the void. Lin Ming stumbles upon this mysterious cube and begins his journey to become the hero of the land.

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Chapter 701 – Come, Let's Go And Pick Them Up

After this fall out with Yin Yang Profound Palace, Lin Ming no longer planned to stay here. Entering the Giant Leviathan's body was the safest. Moreover, it could ascend into the heavens or descend into the seas, unassailable wherever it went.

“You... ” Xing Can felt weak in her heart. She could faintly guess what Lin Ming was doing. Once Lin Ming was freed from his constraints, what else could she use to fight him with?

In front of the Giant Leviathan, their Yin Yang Profound Palace was nothing more than an egg.

Taking the treasure sword in her hand, Xing Can quietly took a step forwards.

“I said not to move!” Lin Ming's eyebrows shot up and his right hand sank a little bit. The spear point immediately pierced into Xing Yang's neck, resting against his bones as more blood poured out!

“Mother, save me!”

At this time, Xing Yang was miserable and his suffering was beyond compare. His confidence had been completely ruined by Lin Ming. From the very start, he had been suppressed by Lin Ming. Finally, he had lost in strength and deterrent ability and all

other aspects. Now, he was nothing more than a chicken in Lin Ming's hands. As long as Lin Ming wanted to, then his life would instantly end.

Xing Can's eyes widened as she glared at Lin Ming with hatred. Yet, there was nothing she could do. She could only watch helplessly as Lin Ming calmly took away all the disciples of Divine Phoenix Island, not even leaving behind any of their possessions. Even Mu Qianyu's cabin was brought along, surrounded with energy before being leisurely sucked up.

Moving everything together, including residences, was the most thorough and stable form of migration.

"Yu'er, Sect Master, please head up too." Lin Ming held his spear, speaking without turning back to glance at Mu Yuhuang.

As Mu Yuhuang looked at Lin Ming's back, her eyes jumped up. This situation, which she had thought was impossible to recover from, actually had such a bizarre change. Lin Ming obviously had a path to escape this place, otherwise, he wouldn't have dared to face Yin Yang Profound Palace.

Several tentacles shot down and floated atop the ground, the ends flattened. Mu Yuhuang, Mu Bingyun, Duanmu Qun, and the rest all calmly stepped onto these tentacles before the tentacles rapidly drew back upwards.

After everyone safely left, Lin Ming kicked up Xing Yang and held him up by his robe with his spear, his toes hanging off the ground.

Then, he flew towards the Giant Leviathan.

When Xing Can saw this she was furious. “Lin Ming, what are you doing!? I let you leave already so why haven’t you released my son!?”

“You let me leave? How ridiculous.” Lin Ming sneered, “I already said before that I gave you the chance to choose. But, since you did not cherish that chance, now, I must apologize, because I have changed my mind.”

As Lin Ming spoke, his right hand suddenly arrived at Xing Yang’s back, smashing into him!

Peng!

Vibrating true essence galloped into Xing Yang’s body, recklessly destroying him from within. Xing Yang vomited a mouthful of blood before flying backwards.

This strike of Lin Ming’s was a simplified version of the Pulse Cutting Palm; it wasn’t as ruthless or as cruel as the full version. This would at most ruin Xing Yang’s road of martial arts. Not to mention, Xing Yang’s heart of martial arts was already ruined by Lin Ming. From this point on, his thoughts would never be able to flow freely and this would hinder the true essence circulation in his meridians and dantian. This knot would be like a stone, continuously hindering Xing Yang’s cultivation.

This was the so-called ‘heart sickness’ or ‘heart demon’.

It could be said that Xing Yang’s road of martial arts was basically wasted. In the future, even breaking through to the first stage of Life Destruction would be questionable, let alone becoming a Peerless Emperor.

This was the effect that Lin Ming desired.

“Yang’er!”

Xing Can’s heart blazed with fury. However, in front of the Giant Leviathan, she had no choice but to tolerate this insult. She flew up into the air to catch Xing Yang.

In the end, Lin Ming didn’t kill Xing Yang nor did he completely waste away his martial arts. The threat he used to compel Xing Can and Yin Yang Profound Palace was the Giant Leviathan. As long as the Giant Leviathan attacked, then it could raze the entire Yin Yang Profound Palace to the ground in just an incense stick of time.

But, Lin Ming couldn’t guarantee that Xing Can wouldn’t turn into the violent incarnation of a crazy mother after Xing Yang died. If a woman went crazy, then anything was possible. At that time, if she really decided to abandon Yin Yang Profound Palace and chase him down to kill him, then things would become rather difficult.

The Giant Leviathan was relatively poor in single combat after all. Although its attacks were powerful, it wasn't flexible enough; it simply couldn't strike a high leveled Life Destruction powerhouse.

Moreover, Xing Can was actually very strong. If she joined forces with her husband, the two of them together could contend with a third stage Life Destruction powerhouse.

Thus, Lin Ming didn't use the complete Pulse Cutting Palm and also allowed Xing Yang to keep his life. As for partly ruining Xing Yang's meridians, there would always be hope that he could be healed. This would be enough to distract them. As long as he didn't touch Xing Can's bottom line, then Xing Can wouldn't succumb to madness and join the South Sea Demon Region to attack them.

Lin Ming had already flown towards the stomach of the Giant Leviathan. Under his deliberate control, Mu Qianyu and Mu Yuhuang hadn't entered the Giant Leviathan's dimension yet.

“Yu'er, Sect Master, can you feel Little Flame and Fireshine's energy?”

These were the names of the Vermillion Birds that were taken away.

As Mu Qianyu and Mu Yuhuang's life's Vermillion Birds, they naturally had a connection to each other.

“Yes...yes, I can!” Mu Qianyu quickly replied.

“Come, let’s go and pick them up.”

Lin Ming calmly said. His words carried an indescribable confidence and an absolutely domineering aura. This was not to steal or to take, but to pick up. This was the confidence brought about by absolute power.

Hearing Lin Ming say this, Mu Qianyu nearly cried a storm of tears. Ever since Little Flame was taken away, she had berated herself constantly, falling into an abyss of guilt. These past months, she had thought of reuniting with her life’s Vermillion Bird even in her dreams. But, she didn’t have the ability to do so. She hadn’t even dared to raise this thought for fear that she would place Mu Fengxian in an awkward position.

For the interests of the sect, she had to sacrifice her kind and innocent Little Flame. This was like a knife that had twisted itself into Mu Qianyu’s heart, making it hard to even sleep at night.

But this pain, this guilt, all of these tangled feelings together, with just a simple ‘come, let’s go and pick them up’ from Lin Ming, all of it had faded away.

Thinking that she would finally be able to see Little Flame again, Mu Qianyu couldn’t stop her tears from falling.

“Thank you, thank you so much, Lin Ming, thank you.” Mu

Qianyu tightly hugged Lin Ming, repeating herself over and over again. As she clung to his shoulders, she felt an inexplicable sense of peace.

Even Mu Yuhuang's eyes were wet. There was no need to mention her beloved Fireshine who had accompanied her for hundreds of years. The greatest pressure she felt came from the loss of the Divine Phoenix Island. Divine Phoenix Island, with its 3000 years of history and inheritance had suddenly been destroyed in her generation. No matter what the reason was, no matter how powerful her enemies had been, this didn't change the fact that the sect had fallen when she was in charge. If she died, she would not have the face to greet the ancestors of Divine Phoenix Island. This entire time, Mu Yuhuang had withstood the pressure of this great burden. But now, because of Lin Ming, all of this pressure began to dissipate like mere smoke.

She was glad that she had received Lin Ming as her disciple. Placing her full support behind Lin Ming was the wisest and greatest decision she had made in her entire life.

“Let's go. Between us, there is no need to give thanks.” Lin Ming bent down and whispered into Mu Qianyu's ears. Then, he held her hand and flew towards the Giant Leviathan's fins.

Standing on one of the Giant Leviathan's wide fins, Lin Ming held onto the white spear with one hand and grasped Mu Qianyu's hand with the other. He ordered the Giant Leviathan to fly towards the main peak of Yin Yang Profound Palace.

As the incoming winds blew against Lin Ming, it sent his long

hair flying in the air, recklessly waving around. His black clothes flapped around. His figure was straight as he proudly held his long spear. Standing atop a massive sea beast dozens of miles long, he surveyed the world underneath him. An inexplicably heroic spirit emanated from him as if he was saying that at this moment, he was the king of all heaven and earth!

At this time, Mu Qianyu was quietly standing behind Lin Ming. As she saw her beloved Lin Ming's handsome face and valiant profile, her heart brimmed with a surge of emotions. She had never felt this satisfied before. She now knew what this feeling was – absolute bliss.

Little Swallow Mountain was 100 miles away from Yin Yang Profound Palace's main peak. To the Giant Leviathan, this only took a brief moment to cross. At this time, Xing Can was still stationed at Little Swallow Mountain as she helped her son heal his wounds.

After having his arm cut off, the sooner it was re-attached, the less negative side effects there would be. But, Lin Ming's spear had contained the power of a battle spirit. Xing Yang's right hand had been smashed into a mess, and the bones of his hand were nearly completely broken into pieces.

Thus, re-attaching his hand and fixing it was filled with difficulties. In addition, Lin Ming had struck Xing Yang with a simplified version of the Pulse Cutting Palm. This tore Xing Yang's meridians to pieces, making it so that healing him was that much more difficult.

After Xing Can caught Xing Yang, her every thought was placed on her son's body, she only wanted to help him heal up faster. It was only a good while later before she suddenly discovered that Lin Ming had ridden the Giant Leviathan and was flying it towards Yin Yang Profound Palace.

Xing Can froze for a moment. Then, she suddenly understood Lin Ming's intentions. Shocked, she quickly lit a sound transmitting talisman.

At this time, in front of Lin Ming, there were seven to eight black-clothed Elders. Their cultivation were all at the mid and late Revolving Core. They were directly blocking Lin Ming's path. This was their sect, so how could they allow such a massive monster to approach it so closely?

They did not recognize the Giant Leviathan, but they were absolutely aware that there was nothing they could do to stop such a horrifying fellow. Even though it pained their hearts and made them clench their teeth, they at least had to ask what this other party was approaching for.

Behind them, a giant barrier of light rose dozens of miles wide. This was their Yin Yang Profound Palace's great protective array.

"This fellow martial arts cultivator, why do you come to my Yin Yang Profound Palace?"

The leader of the black-clothed Elders politely asked. This was only because he was absolutely terrified of the Giant Leviathan. If

it were a common nobody, there was no way he would have been so polite.

Just as he spoke, a flame suddenly shined in front of the black-clothed Elder. It was a short message from Xing Can.

“Hurry and open the array!”

To have her home front destroyed and robbed by others, and now actually having to freely open her doors too, the mortification and vexation Xing Can felt could be imagined.

Lin Ming didn’t hear the contents of this sound transmitting talisman nor could he bother with these people. He faintly ordered the Giant Leviathan.

“Blow it up.”

Huu -!

With Lin Ming’s order, all of the heaven and earth origin energy in the surrounding 100 miles was sucked towards the Giant Leviathan, like seawater rushing into a massive whirlpool. Because of Yin Yang Profound Palace’s spirit vein, the heaven and earth origin energy here was incomparably rich. As soon as the Giant Leviathan started sucking up energy, the energy of the land seemed like it was instantly reduced, wilting away.

The leading black-clothed Elder’s complexion completely

changed. “Wait...wait a second! The Palace Master has already given the order! We will immediately open the array!”

The black-clothed Elder was able to faintly guess just what this colossal beast was. If it was true, then it could mow down even 100 Yin Yang Profound Palaces! This sort of creature absolutely made one’s scalp tingle with fear.

Chapter 702 – Xing Ji Arrives

The youth that stood atop the Giant Leviathan didn't have too high a cultivation but when the black-clothed Elder looked at the monster that was beneath his feet, he couldn't conjure the least bit of resistance.

Moreover, based on the circumstances, the black-clothed Elder highly suspected that this youth in front of him was the Divine Kingdom Crown Prince that had been making such an uproar for nearly the entire last month.

Or at least a subordinate of the Divine Kingdom Crown Prince.

“Isn't that Mu Qianyu and Mu Yuhuang?”

The black-clothed Elder saw the two red dressed women beside Lin Ming and gulped. He could feel a strange nagging sensation at the back of his mind. How could Divine Phoenix Island possibly be together with the Divine Kingdom Crown Prince? And from their appearance, they were obviously close to each other.

Upon seeing the massive amount of energy condensing within the Giant Leviathan's body, the black-clothed Elder quickly said, “Great expert, mercy!”

Then he quickly turned to the two middle Revolving Core Protectors at his side and roared out,

“What are you two doing? Hurry up!”

To the Giant Leviathan, the Yin Yang Profound Palace’s great protective array was no different from paper. If they opened the array too late, then the entire thing would be completely broken by the Giant Leviathan. That would require an unthinkable amount of resources to restore.

The two middle Revolving Core Protectors froze for a moment before quickly flying out, shooting forwards like arrows.

In a short time, the entire array formation began to tremble. The barrier shield around the Yin Yang Profound palace slowly faded away. Standing atop the Giant Leviathan, Lin Ming calmly entered within.

The black-clothed Elder’s face was bitter as he saw this. He didn’t know what they had done or when Yin Yang Profound Palace had managed to offend such an evil star.

“Lin Ming, I can feel Little Flame’s energy from the southeast section of Yin Yang Profound Palace.” Mu Qianyu said from behind Lin Ming.

“Okay.”

Lin Ming ordered the Giant Leviathan to turn. The several dozens of miles long Giant Leviathan was nearly able to cover the entire Yin Yang Profound Palace.

Seeing this massive monster block out the heavens, all the martial artists within Yin Yang Profound Palace stopped what they were doing and looked towards the skies with bewildered expressions. They were shocked speechless. Just what the hell was that thing?

The South Sea Demon Region was over a million miles away from Yin Yang Profound Palace. Although the Giant Leviathan had become infamous even this far out, the martial artists of Yin Yang Profound Palace had never seen it before, thus they couldn't recognize it.

They all came out of their residences and training areas, flabbergasted as they stared at the massive titan floating in the sky with absolute dismay.

The Giant Leviathan's terrifying aspect laid in its great size. Its thick and oily skin was more than thousands of feet thick. Let alone how tough this skin was, even ordinary rock that thick would have been difficult to break open. Thus, the Giant Leviathan's defense was nearly impenetrable by any martial artist below the Divine Sea realm.

As for its striking power, there was no need to elaborate on it. The massive figure didn't even need to use its energy attack. As long as it was allowed to free fall, it would be able to flatten the entire Yin Yang Profound Palace.

“It's that building over there!”

Mu Qianyu rapidly spoke as she pointed at a red tower 30 miles away. She could feel Little Flame's energy coming from over there.

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In that great hall within that red tower, Little Flame and Fireshine were cowering, their neck and feet locked by red chains. During these past months, the two Vermillion Birds had constantly suffered from having blood drawn out from them, and now they were weakly crawling on the ground, their large red eyes bleak and filled with utter sadness.

The Vermillion Birds were intelligent creatures; they clearly knew what destiny awaited them.

Beside the Vermillion Birds, two old red-robed alchemists had squat down near the Vermillion Birds feet. They used a small silver dagger to cut open the legs of the Vermillion Birds, allowing the thick red blood to flow out, capturing the blood in small jade bottles. What they took was blood, not blood essence. A Vermillion Bird had a limited amount of blood essence; naturally, they couldn't randomly take it. But, even if it was blood, taking it every single day still slowly consumed the Vermillion Bird's vitality and essence energy.

However, the two Vermillion Birds seemed to understand that resistance was meaningless. They let the two red-robed old men draw their blood, lying there motionlessly as if they had already died.

In order for the alchemists to use the blood for research, they needed to have Vermillion Bird blood that was brimming with blood vitality. Thus, Yin Yang Profound Palace had force fed the Vermillion Birds blood poison pills to stimulate their bloodline potential. This sort of blood poison pill would certainly reduce the fires of the Vermillion Bird's lives, shortening their life spans even further.

Of course, these alchemists never took these effects into consideration.

The red-robed alchemists chuckled as fresh blood streamed into the jade bottles... Just when they were about to put away the bottles, the half-dead Little Flame suddenly shook its head as if it were shocked by something. The two Vermillion Birds raised their heads, their bright and innocent eyes filled with a glimmer of hesitant hope and excitement.

“What are they doing?”

The red-robed alchemist frowned, not understanding the situation. Little Flame suddenly beat its wings as it tried to stand up. As it flapped its wings about, it directly caused the jade bottle of blood in the alchemist's hands to fall down.

“F*ck!”

The red-robed alchemist was furious. He took out a thick whip from his waist and struck Little Flame with it. With a loud

snapping sound, Little Flame's body fiercely trembled. After several months of torture, the Vermillion Bird was weakened to the point where it could not withstand such a cruel beating.

A blood wound appeared and several red feathers were whipped off. But, Little Flame bit its beak together, not making a single sound. Its eyes were full of wondrous hope as it looked outside of the hall. It could feel Mu Qianyu's energy approaching. This caused Little Flame's breathing to quicken, its big red eyes glowing with tears.

At that moment, a voice echoed in its mind.

“Don't move! Little Flame, I'll save you!”

Pa~

Another whip slashed against Little Flame's body, opening its skin even more. “Get on the floor! Didn't you hear me!?”

The red-robed alchemist angrily said. In order to draw out Little Flame's blood, he needed the bird to lie on the ground.

However, Little Flame only trembled but it still struggled to stand with all its energy. It raised its head, waiting to greet its master.

Little Flame didn't want to see Mu Qianyu in a distressed state where it seemed half-dead.

“You stupid bird! Are you dumb or something!” The red-robed alchemist’s whip came striking down again. Vermillion Birds could understand his words. But, even under this constant pain and intimidation, Little Flame simply didn’t listen to him.

“Lin Ming, please, faster, Little Flame is under attack...” Mu Qianyu covered her mouth, tears running down her eyes. She and Little Flame were connected to each other; she could feel everything that was happening to it.

“Understood.”

Lin Ming’s voice was ice-cold as his eyes filled with rage. 30 miles was only one thirds of the length of the Giant Leviathan.

“Lift up that tower!”

Lin Ming ruthlessly ordered.

Woosh woosh woosh!

Five thick tentacles shot out towards the red tower. As they approached, a barrier of light appeared around the tower. This was the tower’s defensive array formation.

Seeing this light, Lin Ming wasn’t surprised. He ordered, “Rip it open!”

Bang!

Underneath the forceful impact of five tentacles, the defensive array was torn apart and the tower shook.

Just as the alchemist was about to strike out with his whip again, he paused. Mm? What happened? He looked up with a dazed expression, and then a horrifying scene occurred.

The red tower's roof suddenly split apart. It wasn't just the roof, but the walls, floor, load-bearing beams, everything was being torn apart. Several large black tentacles crashed inside as the entire tower was torn in half.

“What is that!?”

The two red-robed alchemists paled. Their cultivations were at the early Revolving Core and extreme Xiantian. Underneath these massive tentacles, they were no different from little rats in front of a giant snake. They had no ability to resist.

“Run!”

The two red-robed alchemists reacted fairly fast. But, just as they turned to run away, tentacles already ripped through the floor and smashed into them.

“Ahh!”

“Ahh!”

With two miserable cries, the two red-robed alchemist's chest were directly crushed flat, all of their organs turning to goo.

Against these two people, Lin Ming didn't show the slightest bit of mercy. Since he had already killed eight people here, he didn't mind killing another two.

“Little Flame!”

As soon as the tentacles ripped open the roof, Mu Qianyu was able to see Little Flame's injured appearance. Little Flame's entire body was covered with scars and blood, and the fires of its life were only one third of what they were at its peak. Mu Qianyu felt weak, like someone had twisted a knife in her heart.

Without waiting for the tentacles to wrap around Little Flame, Mu Qianyu rushed towards it. She clung to Little Flame's neck, her tears soaking its faded feathers.

“Squawk squawk...”

Little Flame cried out in a soft voice. Its large red eyes were wet and its body shook as it gently covered Mu Qianyu with its wing. This was how Little Flame expressed its love and joy at seeing Mu Qianyu at last, all of the pent up emotions that had suddenly come

swelling up.

Lin Ming and Mu Yuhuang also fell down at this time. As Mu Yuhuang saw Fireshine's appearance, her eyes reddened with tears. However, she was much more composed and restrained than Mu Qianyu was. She walked forwards and gently touched Fireshine's head.

“Let's go up. I will settle Little Flame's debt with Yin Yang Profound Palace.”

As Lin Ming spoke, several tentacles formed a lotus-like throne in front of them. By stepping onto this, they could quickly enter the dimension within the Giant Leviathan.

“Yu'er, Sect Master, please enter into the Giant Leviathan's dimension first. I have a matter I must finish first.”

“Mm? What do you plan on doing?” Mu Yuhuang asked.

“Collect interest from Yin Yang Profound Palace.” Lin Ming's eyes flashed with a cold light as he spoke. This caused Mu Yuhuang's eyes to jump up. She wanted to give a few words of advice and tell him not to go too far. But after thinking about it some more, she didn't say anything. For these past years, Lin Ming had always handled affairs accordingly and with absolute confidence. Even if it seemed impossible, he still managed to accomplish it somehow.

Thus, there was no need to say anything more. She only told him to be careful of Yin Yang Profound Palace's Palace Masters and then stepped into the Giant Leviathan's dimension with Mu Qianyu and the two Vermillion Birds.

Lin Ming stood on the Giant Leviathan's fin and ordered it to fly towards Yin Yang Profound Palace's medicine garden.

“Hehe, little boy, you want to rob Yin Yang Profound Palace's medicine garden? I like this! Huhuhahaha!” Demonshine's maliciously playful voice sounded out in Lin Ming's mind.

“Mm...” Lin Ming nodded. In fact, he had an idea. Since the heaven and earth origin energy was so rich within the Giant Leviathan, then why didn't he simply build up his own medicine garden within the Giant Leviathan? He could raise some spirit plants and spirit grass to pave his way to becoming an alchemist later.

As Lin Ming thought of this idea, his eyes suddenly widened. He discovered that several dozen miles away, a streak of light was racing across the horizon at an extremely high speed. Although this light was very far away, Lin Ming could determine that this incoming master was a second stage Life Destruction powerhouse.

Yin Yang Profound palace only had two second stage Life Destruction powerhouses: Xing Ji and Xing Can.

Xing Can was still at Little Swallow Mountain. Thus, this streak of light that was approaching from the opposite direction could

only be the other Palace Master of Yin Yang Profound Palace, and also Xing Yang's father... Xing Ji.

Chapter 703 – Xing Ji, Who Nearly Vomited Blood

Before this, Xing Ji had left for some errands, and had not returned until now. At the time that Xing Ji returned to Yin Yang Profound Palace, Lin Ming had already directed the Giant Leviathan above the skies of Yin Yang Profound Palace's medicine garden.

Yin Yang Profound Palace's medicine garden had its own guardians. As these guardians saw the Giant Leviathan in the skies, its vast body which caused dark clouds to twist in the heavens, all of them gulped, before bracing themselves as they flew up.

“Just who do you think you are you that you dare break into my Profound Palace's private grounds!” A late Revolving Core Elder gathered up the courage to say. Just now he had witnessed the two alchemists in the tower instantly ripped in half by the Giant Leviathan's tentacles, dying a cruel and horrible death. If it weren't for Palace master Xing Ji catching up right behind them, then he would have probably turned around and fled.

“Out of my way!” Lin Ming commanded. With the support of the Giant Leviathan, his voice was like a tsunami that spread out in all directions, echoing between the heavens and the earth. The several Revolving Core Elders were shaken up by this voice and nearly spat out mouthful of blood.

This was the disparity of absolute strength. Knowing that they were just eggs waiting to be smashed against a stone, the several Elders could only drawback with pale faces.

Lin Ming controlled the Giant Leviathan and sent out hundreds of tentacles that fluttered about like mystical snakes.

His plan was to directly scoop out the medicine garden.

Although the origin energy within the Giant Leviathan's dimension was rich, it was actually short on soil for medicinal plants to grow in.

There were very stringent requirements for soil suited for medicinal plants. It had to be innervated over hundreds or thousands of years with rich origin energy before becoming spiritual earth that was able to grow medicinal plants. Thus, Lin Ming decided the best choice for soil at the moment was Yin Yang Profound Palace's own medicine garden.

After digging up Yin Yang Profound Palace's spiritual earth, in addition to the South Sea Demon Region's spiritual earth, he could use this to form a medicinal garden within the Giant Leviathan. This way, being able to shift it around would also be very convenient.

Moreover, as he gathered more and more medicinal herbs, they would be able to naturally emit heaven and earth origin energy. This would cause the spiritual earth of the medicine garden to grow much more rich and potent.

“Hoho, boy, that Xing Ji is looking at you. Look at his eyes, you can see he's angry! Haha! How funny!” Demonshine cackled as he

tried to stir things up. At this moment, Xing Ji was only seven to eight miles away from Lin Ming.

“Doesn’t matter. I’ll shatter the medicine garden’s protection first.”

Lin Ming completely ignored Xing Ji and commanded the Giant Leviathan to attack.

Instantly, dozens of tentacles lashed out like massive whips.

Bang!

With an explosive sound, tentacles smashed into the medicine garden’s protective array. Like an egg being struck by a hammer, the protective array instantly burst apart.

More and more tentacles appeared until there were over 200 in total. They completely circled the medicine garden, digging 100 feet into the ground. Then, they began to pull it up from the center. Lin Ming planned to use the tentacles to completely dig up the earth and drag away the whole medicine garden.

“Lin Ming! If you dare to take away my Profound Palace’s medicine garden today, then I swear I will kill off your Divine Phoenix Island today! You will regret everything you’ve done here!” Xing Ji roared, his eyes red with rage. After receiving Xing Can’s sound transmitting talisman, he already understood everything that happened.

Until now, Lin Ming had only killed several Revolving Core Protectors of the Yin Yang Profound Palace. This was still a loss he could bear. But now, as the Palace Master of Yin Yang Profound Palace, if he had to look on helplessly as Lin Ming stole away their entire medicine garden, then his lungs would probably blow up with rage.

This wasn't just about losing the medicine garden, but more so a matter of allowing someone to freely beat up his face. If this matter spread out in the future, that Yin Yang Profound Palace, a dignified fifth-grade sect, allowed a 20 some year old boy to completely take away their medicine garden, then they would become the laughingstock in the entire martial arts world. They would be the greatest joke underneath the heavens!

How could he tolerate this!?

“Kill off my Divine Phoenix Island?” Lin Ming indifferently looked at Palace Master Xing Ji from within the Giant Leviathan's dimension. “In my life, my principles have never changed. If someone gives me one foot of respect then I shall give them 10 feet of respect. If someone punches me, then I will stab them with three sabers. Whoever dares to harm my friends and family, then I shall annihilate nine generations of their entire family! Xing Ji! You can do whatever it is you want, but I can promise you that if you dare, I will henceforth wipe off the entire Yin Yang Profound Palace along with your family from this world!”

As Li Ming spoke, his voice was as chilling as the nine nether abyss. No one suspected whether or not Lin Ming would follow up

on his words. Not only that, but he had the ability to do so.

Xing Ji's voice caught in his throat and his momentum was suddenly reduced by half. He truly didn't dare to recklessly bet everything against Lin Ming unless he was absolutely sure he could kill Lin Ming here. Otherwise, Lin Ming's future potential was limitless. Completely exterminating Yin Yang Profound Palace wouldn't be difficult at all. In fact, he already had that ability right now.

“Lin Ming, you have gone too far!”

“Gone too far? Humph! Xing Ji, you know in your heart just how you've treated Divine Phoenix Island these past few months. Even so, I've only wounded Xing Yang but haven't killed him. I gave a chance for your wife to negotiate, but she decided to give up this chance. So don't blame me for taking away your medicine garden, because this is only interest!”

Taking away the medicine garden was only interest!?

Hearing Lin Ming's abusive and brazen words, Xing Ji nearly convulsed in anger. This medicine garden had been built over thousands of years with the accumulated resources of the Yin Yang Profound Palace. It was especially rich in fire and water attribute heavenly treasures. Yet Lin Ming actually called this 'only interest'!?

If he weren't forced to the end of the line then he really would want to tear Lin Ming to pieces with his bare hands. But now, with

the Giant Leviathan right in front of him, he had no choice but to endure this insult. He humbly said, “Lin Ming, I apologize for all the wrongs that have been done to Divine Phoenix Island. Give this old man some face and stop things here.”

For someone like Xing Ji, who was famous and also honored everywhere, admitting defeat could be said to be a very big concession. But, Lin Ming frankly didn't care about this.

“Give you face? Stupid! Who cares about your face! How much is your face worth? When my Divine Phoenix Island was in a weaker position and was being bullied and suppressed from all directions, when did you give my master any face? Now that you lot have been suppressed by my strength, I have to care about your face and your Yin Yang Profound Palace's face? Do you think I'm that cheap? Your face is that valuable, and yet my master's face isn't even worth some broken grass?”

Lin Ming relentlessly refuted all of Xing Ji's thoughts, making him incensed with anger.

In Xing Ji's opinion, he had already dropped his dignity as a fifth-grade sect Sovereign and had apologized. To him, this was a massive concession. And yet, Lin Ming had simply mocked him.

Lin Ming also no longer bothered exchanging such nonsensical words. He ordered the Giant Leviathan's tentacles that were stabbed into the medicine garden to directly suck up everything, including the spiritual earth.

The ground cracked and soil was constantly sucked into the tentacles. As Xing Ji saw this, his heart exploded with raging anger! “Lin Ming, you can forget about it!” Seeing that the medicine garden was being sucked into the Giant Leviathan, Xing Ji felt as if it were his ancestor’s graves were being dug up.

“Lin Ming, this old man will remember this humiliation!” Xing Ji revolved his true essence and flames combusted all around him. He was thinking of smashing apart the entire Profound Palace medicine garden with a strike from his palm. Since he couldn’t keep this medicine garden here, then he wouldn’t let Lin Ming take it either. Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to swallow this insult. In the future, once this event spread out, then Yin Yang Profound Palace would become a joke of the entire martial arts world!

“I would rather destroy this medicine garden than let you shame me!”

Xing Ji furiously shouted. To be forced to ruin his own medicine garden; was there anything more tragic than this?

However, Xing Ji soon discovered that, in fact... there was.

As Lin Ming saw Xing Ji gather his potential, he had long guessed what this Palace Master was trying to do. He coldly coughed and said, “Xing Ji, if you dare to destroy your own medicine garden, then I will destroy your Yin Yang Profound Palace! Go ahead and try!”

“You...”

At this time, Xing Ji nearly vomited blood in anger. His lungs hurt, his liver hurt, his intestines, gallbladder, his entire body hurt. “Lin Ming, I hope you f*cking die!”

At this time he had already gathered his potential, ready to attack. But with just a few words from Lin Ming he was forced to suppress his true essence, blood rushing to his head. If he weren't angry to the extreme, then as a dignified fifth-grade sect Sovereign, he would never have said such rude and uncouth words.

Xing Ji was so angry he felt his blood tumbling in his body.

Lin Ming had already controlled the tentacles and had safely stored the medicine garden into the Giant Leviathan's dimension.

Watching his medicine garden disappear just like that, Xing Ji felt his vision go black. He could already envision how several months from now, how the various powers of the Southern Sky Spill Continent would discuss Yin Yang Profound Palace.

As a noble Yin Yang Profound Palace Master and a master who had lived for over 1000 years, he had actually been played around by a little hairless boy called Lin Ming. Just how shameful of a matter was this?

“Lin Ming, if you have the guts then come out and fight me in the

open!” The incomparably angry Xing Ji had no choice but to resort to goading Lin Ming to come out. Also, this was the only method he had to vent to his frustration, reminding himself that there was at least some aspect which he was superior to Lin Ming.

How could this crude and low level taunt actually affect Lin Ming?

“Xing Ji, you’re an old dog that has lived for over 1000 years. As for me, my age can’t even be considered spare change to yours. Yet you actually dare to challenge me? Well, I can promise you a match, but you’ll have to wait till one year from now. Though, after a year, would you still have the courage to challenge me?”

One year!

Xing Ji grit his teeth with hate. He was well aware that Lin Ming’s strength, as it was now was able to kill a first stage Life Destruction powerhouse. In fact, Lin Ming might not be much worse than he was right now. With Lin Ming’s terrifying speed of growth, let alone one year, Xing Ji might not even be his match in half a year.

Even his challenge against Lin Ming had been reversed against him. Xing Ji’s final bit of dignity was crushed, his face slapped into the ground.

His resentment curled in his stomach as if it wanted to burst out in a mouthful of blood. Suddenly, he noticed another light streaking towards Yin Yang Profound Palace at high speeds. This

person was also at the extreme second stage of Life Destruction. Since this person came from Little Swallow Mountain, it was without a doubt Xing Ji's wife, Xing Can.

She naturally knew that her husband had returned and rushed over after helping Xing Yang. If the couple combined their strength, they would be able to display their greatest combat strength. She certainly wanted to come and help her husband.

Xing Can's arrival slightly relieved Xing Ji's extremely angry mood. With his wife coming to help him, he felt somewhat reinvigorated.

He angrily stared at the Giant Leviathan. His flaming eyes seemed as if they could see right through the Giant Leviathan and stared straight at Lin Ming. Raging with a burning hate, Xing Ji wished he could rip apart the Giant Leviathan's body and devour Lin Ming!

At this time, a sudden idea emerged in Xing Ji's mind. Was it really true that no power underneath the Divine Sea could seriously wound the Giant Leviathan?

In fact, this rumor had been spread out by Xuan Wuji to begin with. As the one who was controlling the Giant Leviathan at the time, it wasn't strange for him to boast in an exaggerated manner.

As for how truly powerful the Giant Leviathan's defensive power was, no one really knew. This was because the Giant Leviathan had never battled against a third stage Life Destruction master, thus no

one was able to confirm Xuan Wuji's words!

Chapter 704 – The Terrifying Defense of the Giant Leviathan

Lin Ming took advantage of the time when Xuan Wuji was in closed door seclusion to use the Giant Leviathan to sweep across the South Sea Demon Region. Besides Xuan Wuji, the next strongest martial artist in the area was Xuan Yuqie, who had already been grievously wounded. The powerful and almighty South Sea Demon Region was in truth just an empty shell.

Sweeping away the South Sea Demon Region seemed like some astonishing event, but if one thought about it carefully, it was not much at all.

Without ascertaining if Xuan Wuji's words were true or false, fearing the Giant Leviathan to this degree and allowing Lin Ming to take away their Yin Yang Profound Palace's medicine garden... if Xuan Wuji's words were really found out to be lies, then they truly would be laughed at to death.

“Maybe once the Giant Leviathan is attacked by a high-level Life Destruction martial artist, it would be enough to rip apart its flesh, causing it to die from massive blood loss?”

Xing Ji's mind raced as he spoke to his wife with a true essence sound transmission.

If the husband and wife combo combined their forces, they would be capable of contending with a third stage Life Destruction powerhouse. In addition, with the ultimate final move they had

created in recent years, the power of their strike would be immense. However, the weakness was that it took a long time to prepare and it might possibly miss. However, this wasn't a problem with the Giant Leviathan. Even if they closed their eyes they would still be able to randomly aim and strike the beast. And even if attacking the back, forehead or other places with strong defenses was impossible, then what about the eyes or the mouth?

All of these thoughts crossed through Palace Master Xing Ji's mind. The eyes weren't easy to strike and they also had the protection of eyelids. But the mouth... because the Giant Leviathan used its tentacles to attack, its mouth was constantly open. Attacking its throat through the mouth was definitely the best method of all!

As Xing Ji thought of this, a fire lit in his heart. If he wasn't bullied to the extreme by Lin Ming today, then he would never have thought of taking such a great risk.

"Husband, let's attack together with everything we have. Yang'er has been wounded all over; it will take at least one to two years of hard work and effort to recover. If I don't attack, then I'll never be able to deal with this!" As Xing Can spoke, true essence revolved within her body. A current of icy blue water suddenly emerged out of thin air, wrapping around her. She wished that she could rip Lin Ming apart.

Seeing Xing Can preparing to attack, Xing Ji clenched his teeth and ignited his body with raging flames.

"Haha, Lin Ming, those two baby mice seem to be very unhappy

with you, hm?” Demonshine happily gloated, “That’s right, such a... noble... fifth-grade sect was actually slapped and beat around by others. If they didn’t even try to retaliate they’d never be able to live this lying down!”

Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up as he glanced over at Xing Can and Xing Ji as they combined their forces. The couple’s reputation was truly well deserved. If he had to face this strike alone, then there really would have been no way for him to defend against it. “Water and fire intersected. If they attack together, then the striking power behind their technique might double...”

Lin Ming didn’t stop the two from attacking. In fact, he wanted to know to just what degree did the Giant Leviathan’s defenses matched up to.

“Who the hell cares if it’s doubled or tripled? No matter how sharp a needle is, there’s no way you can stab a whale to death. Let them do whatever.” Demonshine smirked with disdain.

Outside of the dimension, Xing Ji and Xing Can had already been preparing their attack for several breaths of time.

Finally, they began.

As Lin Ming expected, once the two polar opposite energies mixed together, the power it produced was several times that of normal. A red energy and blue energy fused together, turning into a brilliant meteor that soared towards the Giant Leviathan’s mouth.

“They want to attack the Giant Leviathan’s throat through its mouth.” Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up. He thought about ordering the tentacles to stop this attack, when Demonshine’s loud giggles suddenly sounded out in his mind.

“Two top-grade idiots! The Giant Leviathan is also called the ‘Great Swallowing Beast’. By just swallowing once, it can suck up all of the sea water in an area. If it opens its mouth, it can even suck in an entire city. This isn’t just some casual boast. This is because its mouth is simply a portal of space and time. It can transfer anything it swallows to another dimension. They want to attack the Giant Leviathan’s mouth? Hehe, even an early Divine Sea powerhouse would find such an attack to be useless!”

Hearing Demonshine’s words, Lin Ming also stopped worrying. He let the attack continue freely.

Puff!

With a whistling sound, Xing Ji and Xing Can’s brilliant comet of energy shot into the Giant Leviathan’s pitch black maw. Although there was a terrifying energy within it, compared to the Giant Leviathan’s massive mouth, it could only be described as tiny.

The comet of energy rushed into the Giant Leviathan’s throat without being stopped. Xing Can and Xing Ji’s eyes brightened. They had done it!

They were originally afraid that the tentacles would stop their

attack, but they never imagined that the tentacles would respond so slowly, allowing their attack to succeed.

The couple was immediately overjoyed. Although the surface of this giant beast had a strong defense, its insides must still be weak. Since their attack went inside without a problem, they waited to see what sort of destruction their mighty attack had caused to the Giant Leviathan.

However...

One breath...

Three breaths...

Ten breaths...

After ten breaths' of time passed, the Giant Leviathan didn't even have the slightest reaction. Xing Ji's happy expression froze on his face. The couple's attack was like rain falling into the sea; it disappeared without a trace.

“This...”

Xing Ji swallowed a mouthful of bitterness. He had thought that their combined attack might be unable to severely wound the Giant Leviathan, but he never expected the disparity to be so great. Was the Giant Leviathan's throat some sort of invulnerable fortress?

The couple looked at each other, each seeing a deep sense of powerlessness and fear reflected in the other's eyes.

“How about it? Are you two using this method to express how unhappy you are?” Lin Ming's voice sounded out from within the Giant Leviathan, echoing in all directions, loud and clear like a thunderclap.

Xing Ji and Xing Can's words were caught in their throats, the didn't dare to say anything in return.

“A man must always repay his debts. Since you attacked me once, then I will attack you once!” Lin Ming didn't plan on completely annihilating Yin Yang Profound Palace. For such a large fifth-grade sect, it was simply impossible to cleanly destroy it. He didn't want drifting dregs to bother him later. Moreover, they didn't have any deep hatreds between them to begin with, at least, not enough for Lin Ming to completely demolish their sect and kill off all their families.

Huu -!

As Lin Ming's voice fell, all of the surrounding energy rose up like a surging tide towards the Giant Leviathan, rapidly concentrating at its forehead.

“Husband, be careful!” Xing Can said as she bit down on her teeth. Today, the couple had to recognize that they had really stepped in sh*t.

“I’m alright.”

Xing Ji didn’t fear the Giant Leviathan’s energy attack. Not only did it take an extremely long time to prepare but it was also inflexible. Dodging it would be easy.

However, he quickly discovered that he had been mistaken all along!

After Lin Ming gathered up a massive amount of energy, the direction he aimed at was the great temple of the Yin Yang Profound Palace. This was the core of the Yin Yang Profound Palace! Not to mention the various resources and wealth held there, but it was also a landmark of their Yin Yang Profound Palace. Once it was destroyed it would shake the minds of their people, giving yet another reason for everyone to laugh at their Yin Yang Profound Palace.

To have a 20 year old junior remove their entire medicine garden right in front of the two Palace Masters as well as destroy their Yin Yang Great Temple, just how would Yin Yang Profound Palace show their faces in front of others in the future?

“This attack is only 70% of the Giant Leviathan’s strength. If you try your hardest and give it your all, then perhaps you might be able to block it.” As soon as Lin Ming spoke his mind stirred and the space around the Giant Leviathan’s forehead began to distort. Countless dots of shining lights endlessly gathered into a circle. The terrifying energy fluctuations made one tremble with terror.

“Lin Ming, you remember me!”

Xing Ji's eyes turned blood red. He would have been able to easily dodge this attack, but now he had been forced to withstand it. Today was absolutely the most bitter day of his life.

Bang!

Energy completely erupted from the Giant Leviathan, turning into a 100 foot beam of blazing crimson light. It was like a red flood dragon that shot towards the Yin Yang Great Temple.

Xing Ji and Xing Can's expressions completely changed. Both of them attacked together, a red and blue beam of energies firing into the blazing crimson beam.

True essence collided, setting off a terrifying storm and a violent shockwave. Xing Ji and Xing Can felt as if their chests were being forcefully pressed down before they were tossed out like leaves in a storm.

They weren't seriously injured. But, they had been caught up in that massive storm of true essence, unable to keep their balance. True essence chaotically collided in their chests, making the two of them nearly cough up blood.

The density of energy within the Giant Leviathan's attack wasn't high, but the total amount of energy was truly scary.

They had finally failed to completely block the Giant Leviathan's attack. The remaining one third of the energy smashed into the Yin Yang Great Temple, directly sending its dome flying off.

Seeing the Yin Yang Great Temple crack apart in front of them, they could only watch helplessly as they recalled the absolute difference in strength between them and the Giant Leviathan. It was like Xing Ji's teeth had been knocked out and he could only swallow them; there was no way he could voice his hatred and grievance. As long as Lin Ming had the Giant Leviathan, there was simply no way they could provoke him. And, in another year or so, once Lin Ming grew further, they wouldn't even be able to deal with just him anymore. Thinking about this, Xing Ji simply cut off all thoughts of opposing Lin Ming ever again.

Within the great and broad dimensions of the Giant Leviathan, the heaven and earth origin energy was incomparably rich. Lin Ming stood here, watching as several dozen tentacles passed into this dimension, slowly laying down the medicine garden into a long stretch of land.

With the help of the memories from the Realm of the Gods alchemist, Lin Ming was able to quickly recognize around 99% of these medicinal herbs. There were quite a few treasures here. Even if Lin Ming had very high standards, he was still very satisfied with several of the fire-attribute medicinal herbs.

“Yin Yang Profound Palace's accumulated treasure for these past few thousand years is quite good; it's not much worse off than the South Sea Demon Region's medicine garden.

Lin Ming took out the Demon Heart Flower and the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass from his spatial ring and planted it into this new medicine garden. After several more years, this medicine garden would form a self-sufficient cycling system of origin energy. Once the medicine garden stabilized further, he could even plant down the seeds from the profound gold divine fruit as well as any future heavenly materials he found. All of this could be planted in this medicine garden. This would form a positive feedback loop that would allow the quality of this medicine garden to become increasingly high.

This would form a solid foundation for when Lin Ming decided to embark on the path of being an alchemist in the future.

Lin Ming randomly plucked some fire-attribute medicinal herbs that had matured, and then quietly stepped through a space barrier. In the next moment, he stepped into another dimension where the Divine Phoenix Island disciples were gathered.

Within the Giant Leviathan's body, the dimensions were self-contained spaces. The largest of these dimensions was around 10 miles in diameter. In addition to the other dimensions, this was more than enough to house the more than 1000 disciples of Divine Phoenix Island without being crowded.

“Brother Lin!”

“Junior-apprentice Brother Lin!”

Seeing Lin Ming suddenly appear, the over 1000 Divine Phoenix Island disciples all appeared excited and overjoyed. Before this, Mu Fengxian and Mu Bingyun had already informed them of what had happened.

After hearing that Lin Ming was the legendary Divine Kingdom Crown Prince and that by just his strength alone, he had completely decimated the South Sea Demon Region, the disciples of Divine Phoenix Island felt as if they were living in a dream. In particular, those disciples that had some contact with Lin Ming before thought this was an even more bizarre and wonderful fantasy.

These past months, they had become accustomed to living like displaced refugees on the edge of death. But now, everything had changed. They could faintly feel that the time to counterattack the South Sea Demon Region had finally arrived!

Chapter 705 – Returning Home

Lin Ming quickly glanced over at everyone. Although a large majority of the Divine Phoenix Island's disciples had died in battle, those that lived were mostly the best of the elites. With these forces, it wouldn't take too many years for Divine Phoenix Island to restore itself to its former glory. With Lin Ming supporting them, it wouldn't be too difficult for them to become a fifth-grade sect.

“Lin Ming? Divine Kingdom Crown Prince, hm? Hahaha!” A raucous laugh sounded out. Lin Ming turned around to see that the one crazily laughing was Zhang Zhen, the first friend Lin Ming had made after entering Divine Phoenix Island.

“Zhang Zhen!” Seeing so many familiar faces, Lin Ming's heart was filled with a nostalgic emotion. He walked forwards and patted Zhang Zhen's shoulder.

“There's also Senior-apprentice Brother Dingshan, Senior-apprentice Sister Xiaoqing, Senior Master Qingyi...”

Lin Ming called out a series of names. Mu Dingshan and Mu Xiaoqing were the chief disciples of the generation right after Mu Qianyu. They had attended Revered Master Tianguang's birthday festival with Lin Ming and their performance had been quite adequate. As for Mu Qingyi, she was the Blue Luan Faction Elder that had often looked after Lin Ming and helped him in the Demon God Imperial Palace.

To meet with familiar people after a period of separation was peculiar. Even though it had only been two to three years, after being separated by a great catastrophe, it was like they had been worlds apart, leaving a sense of infinite sadness and wistfulness.

Lin Ming spoke with these old friends and seniors, catching up with various matters. Then, he walked by to Mu Qianyu and the others' side, passing her a bunch of fire-attribute medicinal herbs.

“Yu’er, this is for Little Flame and Fireshine. It should be enough to help them recover some of the essence energy they had lost.”

“Mm.”

Mu Qianyu took the herbs, her eyes wet. Little Flame was a very smart and intelligent creature; it was well aware of cause and effect, and just what had happened and why. Still, Little Flame never blamed Mu Qianyu a single bit. This caused her to feel even guiltier.

Lin Ming laid down a sound isolating enchantment and then took out a square jade box from his spatial ring. He opened it, revealing the crystal clear black colored beads that were inside. There were ones as large as a fist and some as small as a pigeon egg.

As Mu Yuhuang, Mu Fengxian, and the others saw this jade box filled with black beads, their hearts skipped a beat. They could feel an incomparably pure and tyrannical power emanating from these beads. Compared to it, any sort of top-grade true essence stone was nothing but absolute garbage!

In fact, they could even feel faint fluctuations of life from these black beads. It was as if these black beads each contained the remnant soul of a peerless powerhouse.

“Lin Ming... what is this?” Mu Yuhuang found it hard to remain calm. The value of these treasures had completely surpassed her scope of understanding.

“Sect Master, these are Demon God Bones. After a powerhouse dies, if the leftover energy field, doesn’t disperse, it will condense into an energy crystal after tens or hundreds of thousands of years. The Demon God Bone can be used to increase one’s cultivation. The one’s with slighter weaker energy fluctuations are human-step Demon God Bones. They can be used for mid and late Revolving Core powerhouses to increase their cultivation. As for the ones with stronger energy fluctuations, those are earth-step Demon God Bones. They can be used for a Life Destruction powerhouse to step into the Divine Sea.

As Lin Ming spoke these words, Mu Yuhuang and the others were frightened silly. A heavenly treasure that could be used for a Life Destruction powerhouse to attack the Divine Sea bottleneck... this was truly priceless.

One could tell just from looking at the costs the various great powers had expended to compete for the Nirvana Dragon Root.

But from the fluctuations of energy from this box of Demon God Bones that Lin Ming had opened, their value was probably above

even that of two complete Nirvana Dragon Roots!

This was obvious. After all, the Nirvana Dragon Root was a medicinal herb bred within the ruins of a sixth-grade sect. As for the Demon God Bones, these were formed in the 1000 mile forbidden zone of the mystical and strange Eternal Demon Abyss. Compared to the Eternal Demon Abyss, the ancient ruins of the Demon God Imperial Palace were simply insignificant.

Mu Yuhuang had no doubt that if any of the powers within the entire southern Sky Spill Continent were to know of these Demon God Bones, then that would start a massive and bloody war of terrifying proportions. Perhaps, even Holy Lands would partake in this struggle!

Lin Ming, are you giving these to us? What about you?" Mu Yuhuang didn't ask where Lin Ming had gotten these Demon God Bones. She only felt that perhaps it was a bit wasted on them.

Lin Ming smiled faintly, "Sect Master, in truth I have even better ones."

Demon God Bones couldn't be used without restriction or end. Otherwise, it would inevitably lead to instability in one's foundation. If Lin Ming had to use one, he would naturally use the best. As for those ordinary human-step and earth-step Demon God Bones, these were best used by Mu Qianyu and the others.

"You have even better ones!?"

After Mu Yuhuang, Mu Fengxian, and the others heard these words, they were simply speechless. They had no idea what to say to express their feelings at this time.

The items within this jade box were already the most precious heavenly treasures that they had seen in their lives. But, listening to Lin Ming's words, it seemed they weren't of any use to him...

Just what sort of lucky chance had Lin Ming encountered?

Without a doubt, the greater a lucky chance was, the greater the corresponding dangers. In order to obtain these treasures, just what sort of wild and crazy situations did Lin Ming go through?

Mu Yuhuang and the others were simply unable to imagine this. The vast ocean allowed fish to swim and the endless skies allowed birds to fly. Whatever future boundary Lin Ming could reach... that was already beyond any guesses they could make.

Lin Ming passed out the Demon God Bones. Mu Qianyu, Mu Bingyun, and Mu Yuhuang received Demon God Bones appropriate to their cultivation and potential. As for Mu Fengxian, because of her old age, she mainly would use these for supplementing the fires of her life and extending her lifespan, thus she received a human-step Demon God Bone.

“Thank you.” After Mu Bingyun received a Demon God Bone, she looked deeply at Lin Ming. She had never imagined that she too would receive one. “Lin Ming, thank you for saving Little Blue and thank you for everything you’ve done for Divine Phoenix Island.”

Mu Bingyun said with a true essence sound transmission. Little Blue was Mu Bingyun's life's Blue Luan. If it weren't for Lin Ming arriving, then Little Blue would have ended up in the same situation as Little Flame and also captured by Yin Yang Profound Palace.

For this, she was especially grateful to Lin Ming.

.....

Three days later, in a normal and modest mortal country of the Five Element Region, in a small and remote town...

On this day, a pair of strange visitors came to this small town. A handsome youth wearing blue robes stepped in, accompanied by a beautiful red dressed woman. To the common people of this mortal town, these two people looked like they had jumped out of a fairy tale book.

This young man and young woman were Lin Ming and Mu Qianyu.

"It's here."

Mu Qianyu said in a gentle tone.

"Mm..."

Lin Ming looked at an ordinary small restaurant in front of him. The red lacquered pillars, the latticed wooden windows, the tilted roof, all of it revealed a familiar flavor. Looking up, there was a black sign hung at the top. On it was written a few words – Lin Family Restaurant.

At this moment, Lin Ming felt his mind shake. He was inexplicably held in place, his mind flying back to five years ago when he still lived at Green Mulberry City.

In Green Mulberry City, he had passed his childhood years in such a restaurant.

Blue stones, simmering tea, the tapping of an abacus, friendly guests, nodding waiters, aged wine...

Lin Ming finally didn't say anything. He quietly walked into the restaurant whereupon he saw a little girl with braided hair bouncing at the entrance. She wore a comfortable and well-crafted red jacket and there was a stick of sugar-coated candy in her hands. Her eyes were wide as she curiously looked at Lin Ming.

Perhaps because she had grown up in this small restaurant and was used to guests, this little girl was not shy. She bit down on her sugared candy while she stared with blinking eyes at Lin Ming and Mu Qianyu. Although she didn't know who Lin Ming was, Mu Qianyu seemed to be a tad familiar to her, although she couldn't recall just where she had seen her.

At this time, perhaps because of a deep throbbing connection at the depths of his bloodline, Lin Ming recognized this three to four year old little girl. This child was his sister, that little pigeon – Lin Xiaoge.

Then, Lin Ming saw a beautiful woman in her early twenties gently holding onto the hands of a middle-aged woman as they slowly walked down from the second floor. Behind them was a middle-aged man wearing a hat. In his hand was a shiny new abacus and book, as if he was ready to take count of today's sales.

In that instant, Lin Ming eyes' became wet with emotion.

Father... mother... and Qin Xingxuan...

For some reason, a strong melancholic pain surged in his heart.

Those that walked the path of martial arts were doomed to loneliness. No one would be able to keep up with his footsteps.

Parents, family, friends, lovers... the stronger he became, the greater the distance between them...

Lin Ming felt an inexplicable pain resonate in his heart. He knelt down, his knees hitting the floor.

“Father, mother... your child has returned...”

.....

After Lin Ming returned home, The Lin Family Restaurant closed down. These days, Lin Ming lived in a room his parents had specially prepared for him, enjoying rare days of quiet tranquility.

Lin Ming's parents and Lin Ming himself were excellent chefs. Even Qin Xingxuan had learned a great deal about cooking after following Lin Ming's parents these days. Only Mu Qianyu didn't know anything. This caused her a great deal of embarrassment. She also only understood some of the common mortal customs. With her special relationship with Lin Ming, if she didn't help prepare food and only allowed Lin Ming and his parents to do it, then that would be extremely rude.

After quickly learning some cooking techniques from Lin Ming, with Mu Qianyu's intelligence, she was quickly able to prepare delicious meals.

During the first one to two days, because Lin Ming's parents were from a normal mortal background, they were somewhat cautious of Mu Qianyu. After they slowly became familiarized with each other, they naturally relaxed and the harmony between everyone grew much more relaxed and happy.

In the days that Lin Ming wasn't here, his parents had already recognized Qin Xingxuan as their daughter-in-law. To Lin Ming's parents, Qin Xingxuan was already his wife.

At this time, within Qin Xingxuan's room, Lin Ming took out a

jade box.

“Xingxuan, this is for you.”

Qin Xingxuan’s cultivation was at the Houtian realm. After absorbing 10 drops of Vermillion Bird blood essence, her bloodline talent even surpassed that of Mu Dingshan and Mu Xiaoqing. In addition, she had practiced the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ and the ‘True Primal Chaos Formula’ these past years and her foundations were remarkably solid. Although her talent was not yet at the Saint level, she had already faintly surpassed geniuses like the Sunfire Princess and Zhan Yunjian.

Within the jade box, there were all sorts of heavenly treasures ranging from low to high level, there were even Demon God Bones. As long as Qin Xingxuan used them step-by-step, she would be able to breakthrough to Xiantian by 22-23 years of age and then Revolving Core by 30 years of age. She would basically reach the level of Mu Qianyu.

However, looking at all these valuable and precious heavenly treasures, Qin Xingxuan didn’t smile or seem happy at all. Instead, she only lowered her head. Lin Ming was unsure just what she was thinking.

Chapter 706 – Reaching Black Hole Revolving Core

“Xingxuan, what is it?”

“Ah, nothing’s wrong... ” Qin Xingxuan quickly shook her head. But, this action of hers seemed as if she hoped to hide something.

Lin Ming’s mind stirred. He wanted to say something but he eventually didn’t.

Qin Xingxuan carefully took the jade box and placed it in her spatial ring. With these treasures, in addition to her current talent, it wouldn’t be any problem at all for her to reach Life Destruction in the future.

Lin Ming said, “Xingxuan, it’s getting late; I’ll return to my room first.”

“Mm, alright.” Qin Xingxuan nodded and then escorted Lin Ming out.

A night passed without words. The next morning, Lin Ming took his parents, little sister, along with Qin Xingxuan and Mu Qianyu to return to the Giant Leviathan’s dimension. The 90 mile long Giant Leviathan flew high in the sky, soaring towards the South Sea Demon Region.

Lin Ming's plan was to go to the South Sea Demon Region and dig up their medicine garden. The last time he went there he had simply plundered away all the medicinal herbs, but he hadn't taken away the spiritual earth. Lin Ming intended to go back and finish the job.

After the South Sea Demon Region had suffered such a catastrophe they had already learned from their mistakes. They created a formation of surrounding scouts, and when Lin Ming reached the 5000 mile border of the South Sea Demon Region, the scouts discovered him and relayed the news.

When Xuan Yuqie received this true essence sound transmission her face turned green with hate. She never thought that just after half a month, Lin Ming would ride the Giant Leviathan back here and attack the South Sea Demon Region again!

If this could be tolerated, what else could be too?

Bang!

The chair Xuan Yuqie was sitting on burst into pieces from her anger. She was so mad that she could feel her stomach twisting into queasy knots. But this time, besides escaping, there was nothing else she could do.

Grinding her shiny teeth together, Xuan Yuqie calmly issued out an order. "All South Sea Demon Region martial artists heed my orders. Cease all training and immediately leave the three Demon Region islands and gather at the Abyssal Islands 1600 miles away!"

“Ah?” The Elder in charge of relaying orders was stunned. He was about to ask what had happened when Xuan Yuqie angrily shouted out, “What are you doing, hurry up!”

The Elder quickly relayed the orders, frightened.

After the only person left over was Xuan Yuqie, she felt nauseous from the anger raging in her heart. “Lin Ming, you have gone too far! You and I are irreconcilable enemies!”

.....

By the time Lin Ming arrived at the South Sea Demon Region, all of the martial artists had already left. This surprised Lin Ming somewhat. He slowly ordered the Giant Leviathan to fly towards the South Sea Demon Region’s medicine garden and discovered that there weren’t many medicinal herbs left over. It seemed that almost everything had already been carried off by the South Sea Demon Region martial artists in their hasty retreat.

Lin Ming faintly smiled, not caring much. He didn’t come for those trash herbs to begin with. What he came for was the spiritual earth here.

The South Sea Demon Region’s medicine garden was already larger than the one in Yin Yang Profound palace; it was a full two square miles. Lin Ming sent out 400 to 500 tentacles, digging out the entire garden by the roots, and then took away as much as the Giant Leviathan could.

1600 miles away on a deserted island, Xuan Yuqie was watching all of this take place through the phantom shadows of an array disc. Her lungs nearly exploded with rage on the spot. Before she left, she had everyone pack up all their belongings and everything else valuable. It was only the medicine garden's spiritual earth that she hadn't thought to bring away, as it was impossible to do so to begin with. Now, even that was looted by Lin Ming.

He was simply a locust!

Wherever he went, everything was destroyed!

Her full milky white breasts fiercely heaved up and down. Xuan Yuqie roared out, "Lin Ming, I hope you f*cking die!"

.....

Lin Ming commanded the Giant Leviathan to head tens of thousands of miles deep into the South Sea. There, the great beast began to slowly submerge downwards. The Giant Leviathan was a Saint Beast of the vast sea to begin with; it could dive hundreds of thousands of feet deep.

At such a depth, the water pressure was terrifying. Even if it were a first stage Life Destruction powerhouse, they would be greatly weakened if they had to fight in such an environment.

However, the Giant Leviathan was able to regulate the pressure

within and outside of its body, freely moving in the deep sea.

At this time, in the dimension between the Giant Leviathan's eyes, Lin Ming was sitting there, his eyes shut. In front of him were two high-grade earth-step Demon God Bones.

“Boy, are you planning to make a breakthrough in your boundary?” Demonshine's voice asked in Lin Ming's mind.

Lin Ming had broken into Revolving Core when he had first entered the Eternal Demon Abyss. Now, over half a year had already passed. In the ancient tomb of the goddess in the 1000 mile forbidden zone, Lin Ming had closed up and trained there for one month. He had reached the large success of the early Revolving Core realm. Afterwards, he had formed his 12-winged Heavenly Demon Tattoo and his cultivation had reached the peak of early Revolving Core. Now, with the support of these high-grade earth-step Demon God Bones, it wouldn't be any problem for him to breakthrough to the middle Revolving Core realm, thus Demonshine had asked this question.

However, Lin Ming actually shook his head and said, “No, I plan on forming a Black Hole Revolving Core first, then I will consider making a breakthrough. Every day I don't form a Black Hole Revolving Core, will be another day that I don't make a breakthrough.

The so-called Black Hole Revolving Core was when one's foundation reached the pinnacle. All of the true essence pellets and other energies within the dantian would completely condense onto the crystal core without anything escaping. This would form the

most perfect Revolving Core. This sort of Revolving Core was like a black hole; there was only entry and the attraction force was also much greater.

For a martial artist that reached Black Hole Revolving Core, not only was the total true essence in their dantian far greater than normal, but the speed they absorbed heaven and earth origin energy was that much faster than other martial artists. There was simply no comparison between the two.

“Heh! Well said! If your foundation is not solid then it will become easy to encounter bottlenecks in your future cultivation. The most important thing to you is not making a break through, but building up your foundation! I estimate that Xuan Wuji still has several months before he can leave his seclusion. That should be enough for you to reach Black Hole Revolving Core.”

Demonshine said with appreciation. These past years, although Demonshine was not able to help too much in the material world, he was still able to guide and direct Lin Ming so that he had to take fewer detours in his roads of martial arts.

Lin Ming sat down cross-legged and took out a high-grade earth-step Demon God Bone. Then, he began to absorb the incomparably pure energy contained within.

With the support of this energy, the scattered true essence crystals that freely floated in the gaseous energy around the Revolving Core began to slowly condense together, falling onto the surface of the Revolving Core.

This was an extremely arduous and time consuming process. This was because the true essence crystal pellets were like stars in the sky. Not only that, but once these crystal pellets fell onto the Revolving Core's surface they could also fall off again, forcing Lin Ming to redo the process.

In order to overcome these difficulties, he had to continuously reinforce the compression process.

And in order to do all this, it required a massive amount of time and energy. If he didn't have these high-grade earth-step Demon God Bones supporting him, then Lin Ming might have needed one to two years before he was successful.

Thus, no matter how much of a monstrous talent one was, it was impossible to continue without the support of resources. One would only waste their potential before completely vanishing.

Training was a boring and lonesome process. Day after day passed. Because Lin Ming entered the ethereal martial intent state, he was able to rid himself of outside distractions and completely concentrate his thoughts on consolidating his foundation. Because he had taken some fasting pills before this, Lin Ming didn't even need to eat or drink. In fact, he didn't even need to move.

Ten days...

One month...

Two months...

Lin Ming seemed to have turned into a statue. If it weren't for the fact that there was no dust in the Giant Leviathan's dimension, he would have already become covered with a thick layer of it.

Finally, after two and a half months, the last several true essence crystals, underneath the energy compression of the Demon God Bone, cleanly settled onto the Revolving Core.

In that instant, there was a sudden change!

That Revolving Core that was uniformly spinning suddenly seemed as if it couldn't withstand its own attractive force and it began emitting crackling 'ka ka ka' sounds. Lin Ming's Revolving Core had begun to break!

However, this breakage was not merely the appearance of cracks, but rather the entire crystal core collapsing!

In the moment that the Revolving Core began to collapse, Lin Ming gave a stuffy cough and his body shook. He felt as if his heart had been grasped by a demonic claw and was being squeezed to a pulp!

Because he had lost control of all the energy within his body. It furiously and violently raced through his meridians as if it wanted to break out. His hands, feet, muscles, everything seemed as if it

would explode. In that instant, Lin Ming even thought he would die here.

“Lin Ming, don’t worry! This is because your Revolving Core broke apart and temporarily lost its function. Once it reforms, you will be able to control your energy again.” Demonshine’s voice sounded out in Lin Ming’s mind. After a martial artist reached the Houtian realm, true essence would fully fuse into their body. But, the area where true essence gathered and condensed, the dantian, would become a martial artist’s greatest weakness. Once the dantian broke apart then a martial artist would immediately die.

Lin Ming was now almost in this situation.

Soon, Lin Ming couldn’t even breathe. His heart stopped beating and all the blood froze in him. Lin Ming was distressed to the extreme. However, he couldn’t even form a painful expression because he had lost control of the muscles in his face.

This state continued for a full 10 breaths of time. When his perception began to fade away, the shattered Revolving Core in his body suddenly burst out with a blazing black light. From its original walnut size, it shrunk to the size of a quail egg. The speed it was spinning increased by several times, and it turned from a dark gray to an absolute black without even the least bit of shine.

After the new Revolving Core formed, the lost control flushed back into Lin Ming like a surging tide. The true essence within his meridians started circulating again and his blood flow returned to normal. His entire body trembled and he fell to the floor, panting and breathing in great gulps of air. That feeling just now was really

the same as dying.

“Boy, you’ve really done it this time! When the Demon Emperor was still on this planet, even he hadn’t reached this level!” Demonshine’s tone was somewhat sour. He couldn’t help but be a bit jealous of Lin Ming’s talent and ridiculously solid foundation. In the future, Lin Ming’s achievements would truly be limitless.

Lin Ming sat on the ground for a while as he caught his breath. As he examined his dantian, he found the new Revolving Core there. It was pitch black without a single bit of sheen to it, as if it were a portal that led to another time and space.

A Revolving Core was similar to a star. If the total mass was the same and the radius was smaller, then the gravitational force would be comparatively stronger.

At this time, Lin Ming’s Revolving Core was now able to attract surrounding heaven and earth origin energy several times faster than before. Lin Ming could faintly feel the origin energy within the Giant Leviathan constantly gathering around him. Even if Lin Ming didn’t take the initiative to absorb it, this energy would still be swallowed up by the Black Hole Revolving Core, quietly settling on the surface and becoming a part of his cultivation.

This is the self-cultivation of the Black Hole Revolving Core?” Lin Ming was shocked. When a martial artist formed a Black Hole Revolving Core, because of its greater ability to attract energy, it could automatically train itself. In just this aspect alone, it completely left all other ordinary Revolving Core martial artists in the dust.

Chapter 707 – Xuan Wuji Leaves Seclusion

Lin Ming took a deep breath, overjoyed. Not only was the Black Hole Revolving Core able to autonomously cultivate, but it could also absorb heaven and earth origin energy at a pace far surpassing an ordinary Revolving Core martial artist. This alone would increase his endurance and recovery to another level. In addition, a Black Hole Revolving Core martial artist had a true essence several times thicker than normal. In front of a Black Hole Revolving Core martial artist, an ordinary person would not even have the chance to resist.

After reaching Black Hole Revolving Core, Lin Ming still wasn't satisfied. He took out two more Demon God Bones and prepared himself to break through to the middle Revolving Core stage.

Currently, Lin Ming had been stranded at the early Revolving Core realm for nearly an entire year. His foundation was already stable enough; he just needed to seclude himself again and attack the middle Revolving Core in order to succeed towards the next step.

But while Lin Ming was in closed-door seclusion, 300 miles north of the South Sea Demon Region, a sudden loud noise exploded from the depths of the sea, causing all the surrounding waters to tremble. A faint rumbling sound lingered in the air like an endless thunderclap!

Peng!

The seawater exploded and a blue geyser directly impacted into the heavens. In this terrifying spout of water, a black-robed, middle-aged man floated inside, his eyes seeming to sizzle with jet-black flames.

This person was Xuan Wuji.

Even though he had risked his life to make a breakthrough with great difficulty to the fourth stage of Life Destruction, Xuan Wuji's breakthrough wasn't perfect. After shattering his Revolving Core, there were many defects that existed after reforming it. These energy flaws would possibly be his mortal weakness when breaking through to the fifth stage of Life Destruction in the future!

And a considerable part of this was all thanks to Lin Ming. Because Lin Ming had recklessly rampaged through the South Sea Demon Region, it had affected his calm heart.

Crossing Life Destruction had always been extremely risky. Just the tiniest change in one's heart and mindset could create catastrophic consequences.

Fortunately,, Xuan Wuji had been prepared. If Lin Ming had angered him in a critical moment then he might have even died. Still, just these energy flaws in his Revolving Core would probably take a hundred years just to stabilize.

How could he not be furious about this?

Combined with the fact that Lin Ming had razed and pillaged the South Sea Demon Region, Xuan Wuji wished he could rip apart Lin Ming with his bare hands!

Xuan Wuji raised his hand and immediately sent out a sound transmitting talisman.

A moment later, Xuan Yuqie's reply returning.

She was both happy and afraid that Xuan Wuji had come out of seclusion.

She was happy that the South Sea Demon Region finally had its supporting pillar revealed. She feared, though, that Xuan Wuji would not be happy with her performance these days. She had lost the Giant Leviathan and allowed Lin Ming to completely bully the sect to near oblivion. She feared that Xuan Wuji would blame her for all this.

Xuan Yuqie completely listed out what Lin Ming had done these past several months without missing a single matter.

After Xuan Wuji listened to this, he viciously grinned. "You transferred all that garbage from Divine Phoenix Island into the Giant Leviathan and then hid deep in the South Sea? Do you think that just because you are hiding in the Giant Leviathan, you have absolute safety? Do you think that I can't find you in the deep sea?"

Xuan Wuji suddenly gripped his fists, his knuckles crackling. “Lin Ming, I will have you pay for everything you’ve done!”

Woosh!

A black ray of light cut through the skies. Xuan Wuji flew at full speed not towards the South Sea Demon Region, but towards the deep sea waters!

After flying for a moment, he then shot into the sea. What Xuan Wuji was looking for were...the various clans of the deep sea!

When the South Sea war started, Xuan Wuji had obtained a great deal of help from the deep sea clans. In truth, he didn’t even need them to deal with Divine Phoenix Island in order to conquer the South Sea. But he became allies with them in order to deal with those other powers of the southern Sky Spill Continent, such as Great Zen Temple. However, he never imagined that he would actually have to borrow their power to face Lin Ming.

.....

Another half month passed. Lin Ming had remained in seclusion for over four months now, and his 21st birthday had quietly passed.

Half of the second high-grade, earth-step Demon God Bone was already absorbed by Lin Ming. The energy within his dantian constantly concentrated into his Revolving Core, and he became

increasingly close to breaking through to the middle Revolving Core realm

But at this moment, Lin Ming suddenly felt the stone bed underneath him shake, the entire dimension trembling.

“Mm? What’s going on?”

Lin Ming was startled. Demonshine’s voice instantly resounded in his mind.

“Xuan Wuji is outside. Looks like he’s brought a great number of helpers; it’s quite lively outside.”

Lin Ming frowned. This Xuan Wuji couldn’t have come earlier or later, but had chosen instead to come at this exact time.

If he gave up his breakthrough here, he would have wasted all his efforts of this past month.

Bang!

The Giant Leviathan shook. Lin Ming’s expression changed. How could Xuan Wuji’s attack be this strong!?

Demonshine said, “Xuan Wuji figured out some defensive weaknesses of the Giant Leviathan from the Demon Emperor’s letter. He’s not as stupid as the Xing couple, trying to attack the

Giant Leviathan's mouth. Now, Xuan Wuji is attacking an area a mile down from the Giant Leviathan's mouth where there are a pair of gray spots. These are the Giant Leviathan's auditory and perception organs, and are also used in maintaining balance; they are very sensitive. You can classify them as the Giant Leviathan's 'ears'. Once this area is attacked then the Giant Leviathan will shake."

As Demonshine spoke, his thoughts stirred and a screen appeared in front of Lin Ming. On this screen were seven humanoid forms. The one in the lead was Xuan Wuji. He wore a dark gray robe, and he had a strangely shaped black horn in his hands. This horn seemed as if it were crafted from some deep sea beast.

Near Xuan Wuji, Lin Ming could also make out the Black Flood Dragon Clan Patriarch he had seen at the Demon God Imperial Palace, as well as Xuan Yuqie, and the silver-masked Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign.

These four weren't surprising. But what drew Lin Ming's attention were three other monkey-like creatures that stood near Xuan Wuji. They were as tall as Giant Demons and their entire body was covered with golden fur. They had deep blue eyes that emitted a faint light.

Was surprised Lin Ming was that, within these three monkey creatures, one of them had a cultivation at the third stage of Life Destruction, and the other two were at the second stage of Life Destruction.

Lin Ming's pupils shrank. If he weren't wrong, then these

monkey-like creatures were Turquoise-Eyed Apes, one of the various deep sea clans!

The endless sea around the Sky Spill Continent was vast and limitless. The races of the deep sea surpassed the Sky Spill Continent in both variety and quantity. They also had their Emperor-level powerhouses, perhaps in even greater numbers than the Sky Spill Continent.

However, the deep sea clans were not adapted to living on land. Thus, they were able to safely coexist in peace. It was unknown just why they chose to join forces with Xuan Wuji at this time.

‘So he has various deep sea clans helping him; no wonder Xuan Wuji can find me in the incomparably vast sea. With the countless marine life in the deep sea clans helping to search, it would be easy to find a creature that is several dozen miles long.’

This thought flashed through Lin Ming’s mind when the Giant Leviathan shook again! Although the Giant Leviathan had amazing defensive power, it still wasn’t able to withstand a barrage of attacks from so many people attacking its weaknesses. At the ears of the Giant Leviathan, rivers of blood streamed out, already dying the entire sea around it a vivid red.

“Demonshine, won’t the Giant Leviathan retaliate unless it’s being controlled by someone?”

Demonshine said, “Of course. This big fellow is a bit slow but it won’t just sit here and allow itself to be attacked. But did you see

that black horn in Xuan Wuji's hand? That device can be used to control the Giant Leviathan's movements. When Xuan Wuji had captured the Giant Leviathan in the Demon God Imperial Palace, he had also relied on this black horn to do so. As long as it is blown, the Giant Leviathan will remain motionless.

As Demonshine spoke, Lin Ming recalled the black horn in Xuan Wuji's hands. So, it seemed that the horn was used to command the Giant Leviathan...

"Lin Ming, I have a way to leave a soul mark in the Giant Leviathan's spiritual sea and control it for a brief period. But this will consume a massive amount of soul force. Not just that but... the Giant Leviathan is only good at destroying sects and engaging in large-scale battles. It does not excel at fighting high-stage Life Destruction powerhouses, especially in small numbers. If I control it in battle, then there still isn't anything I can do against Xuan Wuji.

"I know." Lin Ming's mind raced. When he had used the Giant Leviathan to face the Xing couple, he had an ultimate advantage because he was able to use the entire Yin Yang Profound Palace as a hostage. But, the Giant Leviathan wasn't able to deal with Xing couple by itself. It was only when Lin Ming threatened to raze the entire Yin Yang Profound Palace and massacre all of their disciples that the couple restrained from doing anything.

However, Xuan Wuji's South Sea Demon Region had already been ruined by Lin Ming; he no longer feared such a deed.

Even if Xuan Wuji constantly attacked the Giant Leviathan, there

wasn't anything that Lin Ming could do. The Giant Leviathan's attacks were too inflexible and singular in their means. Not just that, but they also took a long time to set up. It simply wouldn't be able to strike Xuan Wuji.

“We'll fight and retreat towards the deep sea at the same time. If we can go deep enough then Xuan Wuji's combat strength will be greatly affected by the pressure there.” Lin Mind could only tolerate this threat. While the Giant Leviathan had its strengths, it also had its weaknesses.

“I fear it won't be as easy as you think it is. The deep sea clans are experts at fighting deep sea battles. They might have shared some secret skills with Xuan Wuji and Xuan Yuqie to withstand the deep sea pressure. Today, since we're going to suffer regardless, we may as well counterattack first.”

As Demonshine spoke, he drew out of Lin Ming's spiritual sea, turning into a little pug. In the next moment he drilled through a space barrier and vanished without trace.

After another half an incense stick of time, the Giant Leviathan finally began moving. Over a 1000 tentacles shot out, counterattacking Xuan Wuji and the others. However, these were all second-stage Life Destruction powerhouses or stronger; how could they possibly fear these tentacles? They simply drew back farther. As for Xuan Wuji and that third-stage Life Destruction Turquoise-Eyed Ape, they were able to avoid the attack of the tentacles while constantly sending out beams of energy, not stopping their attacks on the Giant Leviathan's weak points.

Although a steel needle couldn't kill a whale, attacking a whale's eyes and ears over and over again would cause no small amount of damage. Not to mention, Xuan Wuji's attacks were at a much higher level than a steel needle; they could at least be classified as a dagger. The force of his techniques were several times more powerful than the Xing couple's combined attack.

“These damn brats!”

Demonshine angrily huffed out. He controlled the Giant Leviathan and retreated deep into the South Sea.

Xuan Wuji and the others closely followed like annoying flies.

At this time, within the Giant Leviathan's dimension, Mu Qianyu and the others also realized what was happening outside. They discovered that Xuan Wuji had come out of seclusion and was chasing them down to kill them. The disciples of Divine Phoenix Island became somewhat nervous.

Especially when the Giant Leviathan trembled every once in a while. This caused their hearts to jump into their throats, a uneasy feeling pooling in their stomachs.

Could the Giant Leviathan really withstand the fourth-stage Life Destruction Xuan Wuji?

Chapter 708 – Breaking Through To Middle Revolving Core

A barrel-thick beam of black light tore through the seawater, turning into a devilish black spear that thrust straight towards the Giant Leviathan's auditory organs. This was one of Xuan Wuji's fatal finishing blows. Once this move had left his hands, all of the surrounding seawater instantly heated up to the temperature of magma. However, under the immense deep-sea pressure, it didn't actually vaporize, but instead roiled and churned around. The black spear surged with a massive spiral of utterly hot water as it smashed toward the Giant Leviathan's ears.

Demonshine's heart tightened. Perhaps the Giant Leviathan really wouldn't be able to withstand such an attack. The Giant Leviathan's auditory organs were similar to a normal person's eardrums. No matter how powerful its defenses were, these eardrums were still a great weakness.

With a stir of his thoughts, Demonshine no longer sent the Giant Leviathan to attack. Instead, he made it gather most of its tentacles to cover and protect its ears.

Bang!

The black spear smashed into the thick meat wall formed by hundreds of tentacles. Most of the outer tentacles were cut straight off, blood pouring into the waters.

However, Xuan Wuji's attack had also been offset. He would no

longer be able to harm the Giant Leviathan's weak point a second time.

Several torn off tentacles wasn't much to the Giant Leviathan. Once Demonshine discovered how effective this move was, he simply completely gave up on counterattacking and manipulated all the tentacles to cover up the Giant Leviathan's ears as he plunged straight into the deep sea.

The Giant Leviathan had a streamlined and smooth body; it could maintain an extremely high speed in the sea.

"This brat!" Xuan Wuji's expression became dark and gloomy. He had never thought that even with the interference of the Giant Leviathan Horn, Lin Ming would still be able to so calmly command the Giant Leviathan so that his attacks became much less effective.

By using that one attack Xuan Wuji had consumed a great deal of energy. He swallowed a pill and coldly ordered, "Follow it!"

The group of seven chased after the Giant Leviathan all the way down. Along the way, all seven of them constantly attacked the Giant Leviathan. Xuan Wuji had a very profound grasp of the Giant Leviathan's weaknesses. Although they wouldn't be able to do a massive amount of damage at once, they could still create numerous small wounds all over its body.

The Giant Leviathan dripped with blood. Wherever it went it would leave behind a river of blood, dying the entire sea red.

Beside Xuan Wuji, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch stretched out its tongue to taste the bloody waters. He chuckled and said, "Elder Xuan, it won't be long. Several days at most until the Giant Leviathan drops dead from exhaustion. Remember that we agreed that the Giant Leviathan's heart and spine will be left to my Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan. Elder Xuan, make sure you don't forget!"

Xuan Wuji coldly coughed and said, "This old man will naturally keep his promises!"

As soon as he spoke, he lifted his hand again and sent out a black beam of light, attacking an old wound on the Giant Leviathan's body and making it expand even more.

"These damn brats!" Demonshine spat out. He wished that he could tear apart that damn Xuan Wuji and his little buddies. It was true that the Giant Leviathan was known as being invincible under the Divine Sea, but that didn't mean this big fellow could just sit down and allow anyone to attack it, especially since Xuan Wuji's attacks were all specifically aimed at the Giant Leviathan's weak points. With a group of these brats attacking the Giant Leviathan, it had already lost a great deal of blood. There weren't any visible effects yet, but if this continued for another one to two days, then it would certainly have an effect on the Giant Leviathan. If this continued, then death by blood loss was possible.

Bang!

The Giant Leviathan's dimension shook again. Xuan Wuji and the others had combined forces to attack the balance maintaining the Giant Leviathan's ventral fins!

The Giant Leviathan's ventral fins were only 200-300 feet thick and not too wide. If Xuan Wuji and the others attacked together, then it truly was possible to slowly cut off a ventral fin!

Seeing that the ventral fin was injured, Demonshine's heart burned with a blazing fury. However, he couldn't think of any solutions to this. This was just like an elephant being chased by a horde of blood-sucking mosquitoes; it was impossible to effectively counterattack.

This went on for another 10-12 hours. The Giant Leviathan was losing more and more blood, and the right rear ventral fin was already half cut off; it was greatly affecting the Giant Leviathan's speed in the water.

But at this moment, a gigantic canyon appeared in front of the Giant Leviathan.

It was a deep sea trench.

The deep sea trenches of the South Sea could reach 500,000 to 600,000 feet, or even 700,000 to 800,000 feet deep. This was several hundred miles. At this depth, the water pressure would reach an unimaginably terrifying degree. Even if it were the Giant Leviathan or the various deep sea clans, they couldn't stay submerged forever.

As for Xuan Wuji, he was a land-dwelling human. Even with the support of the deep sea clan's secret skills, there was still a limit to how deep he could go; it was somewhat less than that of the Giant Leviathan and the various deep-sea clans.

Now, let's see who could dive deeper!

Demonshine grit his teeth and commanded the Giant Leviathan to plunge directly downwards. Even if he couldn't throw off Xuan Wuji, the area of this deep sea trench was narrow enough; it wouldn't be easy to avoid the Giant Leviathan's tentacles here.

The depth rapidly increased!

220,000 feet!

230,000 feet!

250,000 feet!

.....

The Giant Leviathan constantly swallowed the high-pressure sea water, filling its blood and muscles and balancing out the enormous pressure of the deep sea. As for the disciples of Divine Phoenix Island, because they were in a separate dimension, they weren't affected by this pressure at all.

After reaching a depth of 260,000 feet, Xuan Yuqie and the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign were the first ones who were unable to withstand going any further. The thick protective shields of energy they formed around their bodies had begun to emit crackling noises. Obviously, they had reached their limits. Even with the deep sea clan's Water Repelling Pearl, they couldn't go any further downward.

"You two return first," Xuan Wuji tersely ordered.

"Yes." Xuan Yuqie and the Eastern Faction Sovereign immediately stopped. If they went any further than that, the barrier they had made to protect themselves could instantly shatter. At that point, they would be crumpled to death by the extraordinary sea pressure, without a chance to react. As Life Destruction masters, if they were to die here because of sea pressure it would truly be laughable.

This went on...

290,000 feet...

300,000 feet...

Right now, they were already 200 miles deep underwater. The Black Flood Dragon Clan Patriarch and the two second stage Life Destruction Turquoise-Eyed Apes couldn't bear the pressure and turned to go back.

330,000 feet...

At this time, Demonshine could feel the Giant Leviathan's entire body shaking. Even as a great beast of the deep sea, there was a limit to its ability of pressure self-adjustments.

"These damn brats are really insistent." Demonshine looked at the scene outside of the Giant Leviathan and began cursing wildly. Indeed, to him, who had lived for tens of thousands of years already, characters like Xuan Wuji were simply little bumbling babies.

350,000 feet...

At this depth, there were already several million jin of pressure on every square foot. Xuan Wuji grimaced, finally stopping. Even with the secret techniques of the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan, he was also approaching his limit.

Right now, 90% of his energy was already being used to resist the immense pressure of the deep sea; he simply couldn't attack. Even the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch wasn't much better off. If they fought here, then they would consume a massive amount of energy. If they even used just a few moves, it would nearly deplete their energy reserves. At that time, even returning to the surface alive would pose a problem.

"They can count their lucky stars. Let's return to the 100,000 feet sea-depth first." Xuan Wuji left behind a monitoring soul mark on

the Giant Leviathan's body before turning around and swimming back up.

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Patriarch had long had the intention of returning. He immediately stopped diving and swam back up.

Seeing those two annoying and disgusting brats leave, Demonshine finally sighed in relief. 350,000 feet was near the limit of what the Giant Leviathan could withstand. Although the Giant Leviathan's body was incomparably tough, it also had a much greater surface area. Thus, it naturally had to withstand a much greater amount of pressure.

At this depth, the Giant Leviathan had to rapidly consume energy. Even though it absorbed heaven and earth origin energy at an extraordinary rate, it still only managed to barely maintain itself.

“We’ve been trapped in this trench by those dirty bastards!”

Demonshine was exceedingly morose, having noticed Xuan Wuji's perception lock on the Giant Leviathan's body. As soon as the Giant Leviathan moved or decided to surface, then Xuan Wuji would organize another attack. Moreover, as time passed, Xuan Wuji might even find more helpers to come.

After the previous battle, the Giant Leviathan was covered with hundreds of small and large wounds. The damage to the right ventral fin was the most serious. It had been attacked by Xuan Wuji's focused barrage of attacks for several hours, and it had

nearly been ripped off. It would take at least a month to recover. But, under the pressure of this deep sea trench, it was simply impossible for the Giant Leviathan to conjure up the excess energy to regenerate the wound.

This was a horrible situation!

At that moment, Demonshine suddenly felt a series of vibrations in another dimension. The origin energy there stirred, rapidly running out.

Demonshine was startled. He immediately shot through a space barrier and appeared in the dimension where Lin Ming was. In this dimension, the heaven and earth origin energy had formed a massive vortex of energy which was funneling into Lin Ming.

“Good young boy, you’ve finally broken through to the middle Revolving Core realm!”

Demonshine had thought that Lin Ming would need another week or so; he had never imagined that Lin Ming would make the breakthrough today.

Controlling the Giant Leviathan, Demonshine sent all the heaven and earth origin energy from the other dimensions into this one, so that Lin Ming could absorb it. After half an incense stick of time passed, Lin Ming had sucked all of the heaven and earth origin energy into his dantian.

The Revolving Core in Lin Ming's dantian more than doubled, and then a scene similar to when he had broken through to Black Hole Revolving Core occurred.

Within his dantian, the crystal Revolving Core first shattered, then began to collapse. After several breaths' time, it condensed into a much smaller form, and its spinning speed became much faster than before. The crystal core seemed to form a perfect ball, darker than ink. The true essence contained within was several times the previous amount.

This was the middle Revolving Core realm!

Because he had formed a Black Hole Revolving Core, Lin Ming's entire true essence was incomparable to that of a normal Revolving Core martial artist.

On the road of martial arts, the Revolving Core was a particularly special boundary. It was divided into two great stages, both of them considered separate from each other, yet linked. The first was the ordinary Revolving Core realm, and the second was the Life Destruction realm.

Normally, when a Revolving Core martial artist reached late Revolving Core, the next step after that would be to pass the stages of Life Destruction. This was the same for the extreme Revolving Core. A Life Destruction martial artist still had the Revolving Core in their dantian.

In other words, Lin Ming was merely two boundaries away from

reaching Life Destruction.

“Lin Ming, Xuan Wuji’s perception has already locked onto the Giant Leviathan. He is keeping guard at a depth of 100,000 feet in the sea. As long as the Giant Leviathan moves, he will be able to sense it. He wants to lock us in here until we give up or die. What do you want to do now?” After being forced into such a miserable situation, Demonshine was crestfallen. In these depths, the Giant Leviathan wouldn’t be able to support itself for too long. Three to five months was manageable, but after a year or two passed, the Giant Leviathan would die of exhaustion. As for Lin Ming, although he had broken through to the middle Revolving Core, it was still impossible for him to currently contend with the fourth stage Life Destruction master, Xuan Wuji.

Lin Ming thought for a moment, then his eyes flashed with a chilling light. “Go up for a bit. Since they want to stay here, then they have to pay the price.”

Chapter 709 – Opening the Eight Inner Hidden Gates Again

Demonshine controlled the Giant Leviathan and rose from 350,000 feet to 30,000 feet. At this depth, the water pressure was still terrifying.

Xuan Wuji was standing guard at the seabed 100,000 feet deep. If the Giant Leviathan rose again then they would most likely meet Xuan Wuji's attacks.

“Lin Ming, what do you plan on doing?” Demonshine asked. Although Lin Ming's strength had suddenly shot up, he was still far from being able to compare to Xuan Wuji. Facing Xuan Wuji head on was no different from walking into the jaws of death.

Lin Ming said, “They can guard here as much as they want. I'll go to their headquarters and see just how long they can stay. If they don't go back, then they can watch as their entire lair is destroyed and everyone killed.”

Lin Ming had already formed his Black Hole Revolving Core and broken through to the middle Revolving Core realm. His strength had risen to yet another level. He estimated that with his current abilities, he should just barely be able to defeat a second-stage Life Destruction martial artist. But as for his true combat strength, he would need to fight with a second-stage Life Destruction martial artist to find out. Just from this, ruining their headquarters yet again wouldn't be too difficult.

“Massacre their headquarters?” Demonshine’s eyes brightened. “Hahaha, I like! Boy, your tastes suit this Saint perfectly! Don’t worry. With this Saint managing this Giant Leviathan, it shouldn’t be difficult to stay here for half a year. Let go of your limits and destroy everything around you! I can’t wait to see just what expression those damn brats will have! Hahahaha!”

The more Lin Ming thought about it, the happier he was with this idea. This would place those bastards in a dilemma. If they continued to stay here and guard this area, then Lin Ming would ruin their entire headquarters. But, if they left, then he could calmly order the Giant Leviathan to return to sea level and restore itself to its best condition. This was truly a good move.

Lin Ming said, “Don’t worry. I’m going to temper my body first.”

As he spoke, he took out a gold fruit from his spatial ring. This was the profound gold divine fruit!

The profound gold divine fruit was similar to a mushroom of the mortal world. But, while a mushroom grew atop old wood, this profound gold divine fruit had grown atop a Demon God Bone.

It was known that a millennium-old Lingzhi that grew from old wood was considered a wondrous medicine. Then, having absorbed the essence of the Demon God Bone, the value of the profound gold divine fruit could be imagined.

When Lin Ming had gone into the 1000-mile forbidden zone within the Eternal Demon Abyss, he had encountered four corpse

devils. The corpse devils had bodies as durable as a heaven-step treasure. This had made it so Duanmu Qun's and the others' attacks couldn't even scratch them.

If it weren't for Lin Ming's battle spirit, which he was able to pour into the Purple Comet Spear and substantially increase his striking power, then even he wouldn't have been able to do anything to those four corpse devils.

When Lin Ming had chased a corpse devil back to its den, he had gone into that tomb and discovered the secrets within.

The reason they had such a terrifying defense was all because of this profound gold divine fruit.

The profound gold divine fruit was an extreme Yang and extreme light-attribute body transformation treasure. With those four corpse devil's cultivations, they naturally couldn't swallow it. But they absorbed the root of the profound gold divine fruit. When the profound gold divine fruit grew, it would absorb the essence within the root of the Demon God Bone. Thus, the energy within the root was naturally much weaker. The four corpse devils were just about able to absorb this with their cultivation.

"Lin Ming, you want to swallow this?" Demonshine was startled. The profound gold divine fruit could be classified as a Lingzhi grown using a Demon God Bone as nourishment. The inherent energy within was extraordinary. Demonshine wasn't absolutely sure that Lin Ming would be able to withstand its effects. Not just that, but a profound gold divine fruit was a top-grade material of materials. If it was directly eaten then the effects would be quite

lacking in comparison.

“Lin Ming, don’t you intend on becoming a top alchemist in the future and refining this profound gold divine fruit? If you do, then the effects will be several times better.”

Lin Ming shook his head, saying, “If I become a top alchemist, I fear it will take several years to do so. At that time I’ll already have new lucky chances. It’s not worth it to save this profound gold divine fruit and waste my own potential. For me, there is no heavenly treasure that is as valuable as time.”

“Hehe, well said, boy. You really don’t need to care about something like a mere profound gold divine fruit. This is a top-grade body transformation medicine. After eating it, it will greatly enhance your body’s defensive powers. Perhaps you might even become as durable as a top earth-step treasure or a heave-step treasure!”

A human’s body couldn’t be compared to a corpse devil’s. Even having the durability of a top earth-step treasure was freakish.

At this time, Lin Ming was not just tempering his body and increasing his defensive power, but he was also trying to take advantage of this opportunity to open the second of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates—the Gate of Limit.

At this time, a long time had already passed since Lin Ming opened the Gate of Healing. His body transformation foundation had become very solid since then. With a quality body

transformation medicine like this profound gold divine fruit, then it shouldn't be too difficult to breakthrough to the Gate of Limit.

“Black Hole Revolving Core, middle Revolving Core Realm, and the Gate of Limit opened too. Just what degree will my combat strength reach?”

Lin Ming clenched his fists together, a thick fighting spirit rising inside him. He was thoroughly anticipating fighting a second-stage Life Destruction powerhouse. In fact, he even wanted to go out right now and test out his abilities.

Taking the profound gold divine fruit in hand, Lin Ming could clearly feel the terrifying energy contained within. There was no need to mention eating it, just smelling its rich fragrance made him feel refreshed, as if all the cells in his body were being revitalized.

Lin Ming no longer hesitated. He swallowed the profound gold divine fruit down his throat. As soon as it entered his mouth, it turned into a surge of heat that melted into his body.

After several quiet breaths of time, the energy began to boil up like hot water, recklessly entering into Lin Ming's blood vessels, running rampant everywhere!

Lin Ming's blood vessels and body had already been tempered many times; it was as tough as a treasure. Even so, with such a terrifying influx of energy rushing into his body, it was still a bit difficult to withstand.

This sort of situation was well within Lin Ming's expectations. All this time, Lin Ming had undergone similar scenarios many times. He bore the deep pain and calmly revolved the "True Primal Chaos Formula," manipulating the energy of the profound gold divine fruit such that it smashed into the Gate of Limit at his spine.

The spine was also called the dragon bone. It was central axis and main pillar of the human body. It supported all other bones, including the head, chest, abdomen, and all limbs. Everything depended on their connection to the spine. When a person used any strength, this first had to pass through the spine.

The spine was like a bow. The more taut a bow, the tougher it was. The more flexible a spine was, the stronger a person was. However, the truth was that a martial artist's spine often became one of their weaknesses.

This was because the spinal nerves were also located within the spine. The body of nerves was extremely complex and fragile. If these nerves were struck and cut off, then a martial artist would in essence become a cripple unless they had cultivated to an ever-living boundary. Otherwise, even with top heavenly treasures it would still be difficult to restore the contorted spinal nerves.

These characteristics of the spine made it so it was difficult to train it. A martial artist could train their muscles, organs, and bones, but it was difficult to train the nerves and marrow.

Lin Ming had completed to perfection Marrow Tempering and

had also completed an initial tempering of his spinal cord. This was enough to fight those at Revolving Core and below, but when facing those at the Life Destruction realm and higher, it was still lacking.

Within the Eight Inner Hidden Gates, the Gate of Limit was used to train the supplementation of marrow.

The Gate of Limit gathered energy to enhance the defensive strength of the spine. Then, taking the spine as the center, it would guide a martial artist's entire body, allowing their strength to multiply severalfold. Besides strength, a martial artist's explosive force, bearing capacity, balance, and defensive power would all significantly increase.

Pa pa pa!

Lin Ming's back cracked and crackled. An invisible stream of origin energy rapidly twisted around Lin Ming's body, forming small storms. During this fierce collision of energy, Lin Ming's clothing was not able to withstand the impact and quietly disintegrated into dust, revealing his solid and fit back, like that of a graceful leopard.

At this time, the skin and muscles of Lin Ming's back had become a strange, translucent, jade-like color. Lin Ming's entire spine was highlighted through this. The vertebra and the blood vessels were clearly visible and every single nerve could be made out. Starting at the bottom, from the base of the spine, a bright surge of crimson light crawled up. This bloody light gathered together, forming a bean-sized pearl of blood.

This was where the Gate of Limit was located!

Lin Ming was now heavily sweating. His breath was labored, and many of his meridians and blood vessels had burst apart, unable to withstand the tyrannical pressure and energy that ran recklessly through him. But he was completely unaware of this. He grit his teeth, gathering all the energy in his body and thrusting it towards where the energy of the profound gold divine fruit was, ramming both energies into the Gate of Limit.

Failure occurred again and again. Sweat streamed down Lin Ming like rain.

Two hours...

Four hours...

Slowly, Lin Ming's sweat began to mix with rivulets of blood. If it weren't for the strong regenerative powers of the Gate of Healing, then there would have simply been no way he could have supported himself for such a long time.

Even so, his face became incomparably pallid and his lips were deep purple. Because of the severe pain and twitching in his hands, the stone bed beneath his hands had been crushed to bits.

Even Demonshine was alarmed by this terrifying scene. Lin Ming was someone who cultivated with body and energy. At only a

young 21 years of age, he had swallowed a profound gold divine fruit, constantly pushing the limits of his body. This resulted in him frequently having to bear enormous pain in the name of progress.

Another two hours passed. Lin Ming's lips were torn from his biting and both his eyes were bloodshot.

“Break for me!”

Bang!

In that instant, all of the energy and blood vitality within Lin Ming's body rushed into that spot at the base of his spine. Then, it was like something exploded there. Following that, blood shot out from that spinal area, blasting out hundreds of feet away like a crimson arrow.

After this blood shot out from him, Lin Ming collapsed. He fell onto the broken stone bed, covered with sweat, without even an ounce of strength left.

On his back, that strange jade-like sheen slowly disappeared and his skin became solid again, his muscles going back into hiding. After breaking through the Gate of Limit, he had used up too much strength.

“Lin Ming, I have to say I'm quite jealous of you and yet, strangely, I want you to succeed. You've reached the middle

Revolving Core at only 21 years of age and you've also opened the second of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. Even the Demon Emperor of the past is far inferior to you!"

Lin Ming didn't even have the strength to answer. He was only able to crawl up and sit straight. His arms trembled as he took out a pill from his spatial ring and swallowed it, meditating afterwards.

Meanwhile, the Revolving Core in Lin Ming's dantian crazily sucked in heaven and earth origin energy, helping to restore Lin Ming's physical strength.

Two hours later, Lin Ming opened his eyes. Those dark eyes seemed to contain all the thunder of heaven and earth, making those who saw them tremble with fear.

"Let's go." Lin Ming stood up. His vision was like a keen sword as it shined with an icy killing intent.

Chapter 710 – The Death God Comes At Night

300,000 feet down, there was such poor visibility that it wasn't even possible to see one's own hands. Lin Ming quietly left the Giant Leviathan, sneaking into the vast and endless sea. A massive wave of pressure enveloped Lin Ming. But, with his abnormal defensive ability comparable to a treasure, bearing such water pressure wasn't too difficult at all.

Xuan Wuji had left a soul mark on the Giant Leviathan, but it was only to track its movements. As long as Lin Ming was careful, it wouldn't be too difficult to evade Xuan Wuji's perception.

Lin Ming swam 100 miles down the trench before turning upwards. As he restrained his energy, he quickly rushed towards the surface.

After reaching the surface in a single go, Lin Ming flew close to sea level, straight towards the South Sea Demon Region!

After being raided twice by Lin Ming and the Giant Leviathan, the South Sea Demon Region was entirely under total martial law. There was a massive scout line in the 5000-mile radius from the South Sea Demon Region. Once the Giant Leviathan's approach was discovered, this news would quickly be reported to the main island. Thus, it was no longer possible for Lin Ming to control the Giant Leviathan and create another massacre in the South Sea Demon Region.

As he flew along, Lin Ming discovered energies from three different layers of scouts. However, with their extreme Xiantian cultivation, it was simply impossible for them to detect Lin Ming.

Lin Ming easily bypassed these scouts. In just two days of time, he arrived at the South Sea Demon Region sect.

Night had fallen. During this dark night, a chilling wind blew across the lands.

It was an excellent time for assassinations.

Several months had already passed since the last time that Lin Ming had come to the South Sea Demon Region and razed the place to the ground. Many of the ruined buildings had already been rebuilt. It was only missing the medicine garden, great protective array, training arrays, and other such structures that would require between three to five months to rebuild. In order to rebuild these structures, one needed to invest a massive amount of manpower and all sorts of resources.

As Lin Ming saw the South Sea Demon Region that had mostly been rebuilt, his lips curved into a cruel smile.

Once Xuan Wuji was the only Elder remaining in the South Sea Demon Region, just what sort of expression would he have?

Completely bundling himself up, Lin Ming was like a bat in the night. He quietly snuck into the buildings of the South Sea Demon

Region.

The night wind breezed past him. Lin Ming could taste the flavor of these Demon Islands mixing with the sea air; this sort of flavor tasted faintly like blood.

The dim moon was completely hidden behind the clouds, making the sky seem even darker. Lin Ming walked on a dark path, hearing the rustling sounds of insects wherever he passed.

After stealthily walking for a half an incense stick of time, Lin Ming came upon movements. He could hear the low and deep moans of a woman, her tender sighs rapidly rising. Lin Ming's mind stirred and he stopped where he was.

The South Sea Demon Region was a sect of obscenity; it was different from the killing path that the Demon Emperor had taken. The Demon Region disciples needed to have sex every day with various women, using them to increase their cultivation. Some of the women who lived at the South Sea Demon Region were forced, and some were completely willing to be used as cultivation tools. They were no different than those girls who tried to enter the Acacia Faction. After all, it was still joining a great sect. If they could curry some favor with a male disciple and obtain some resources, that would save them many years of hard work and effort.

Lin Ming placed his back to the window and extended his perception into the room. On baby pink sheets, he could see a round and buxom, veiled woman sitting atop a man, wantonly twisting around. As for that man, he was reaching out his

disgusting hands and stroking her body.

The man's cultivation was at the Xiantian realm, but the woman was only at the early Pulse Condensation realm. Most female martial artists didn't have much martial talent; they only wished to breakthrough to the Pulse Condensation realm so that they could enjoy several dozen more years of youth. They never had much ambition to walk the road of martial arts to begin with.

Lin Ming stretched out his finger, and a wisp of dark green light appeared in the origin energy flow above his finger. Seeing this origin energy flow, Lin Ming was startled. His battle spirit had grown these past months!

For a martial artist, the earlier they formed their battle spirit, the greater its potential for growth in the future would be. As a martial artist trained and made breakthroughs, their battle spirit would slowly grow with them. Every breakthrough meant that the battle spirit would also grow. When Lin Ming first broke through to Revolving Core with the support of the Blood Demon Bone, he had fully formed his bronze-level battle spirit. Now, having broken through to the middle Revolving Core realm once more, Lin Ming's battle spirit had already passed from the bronze-level elementary stage to that of small success.

Every level of battle spirit was divided into four stages: elementary, small success, large success, and perfection.

Still, in the Sky Spill Continent, even an Emperor-level powerhouse would only reach a bronze-level battle spirit.

“My battle spirit is near small success of the bronze level. If I can reach Life Destruction in the future, would be I be able to reach perfection? If I reach higher stages of Life Destruction, would I be able to form a silver-level battle spirit? I wonder just how powerful a silver battle spirit is?”

Lin Ming’s mind was filled with expectations. But now wasn’t the time to think of these things. He flicked his finger, and the battle spirit fused into the air, shooting towards the two figures.

Swoosh! Swish!

Two wisps of air with battle spirits attached to them quickly shot out, instantly piercing through the man’s and the woman’s neck.

In that moment, the battle spirit plunged into their minds, making them immediately faint.

Lin Ming’s figure flashed and he appeared right at their bedside.

On the bed, with fat buttocks and breasts splayed out in the open, the scene was infinitely revealing. Lin Ming pushed the woman off the male Demon Region disciple’s body, and then placed a hand on his head.

Soul searching technique!

This was a secret skill of the demonic realm. Demonshine had used it before, and Lin Ming also studied it for convenience. With the intensity of Lin Ming's soul force and mind, mastering his ability wasn't difficult at all.

Because the difference in their soul force was far too great, Lin Ming was able to scour the Demon Region disciple's mind without injuring his spiritual sea, finding out whatever information he wished for.

“There are a total of seven Life Destruction Elders in total on the South Sea Demon Region's three islands...six at the first stage of Life Destruction and one at the second stage....”

Lin Ming tossed away the Xiantian realm disciple. After locking onto the location of several Elders, he quietly made his way over.

After forming a Black Hole Revolving Core, breaking through to the middle Revolving Core realm, and then opening another of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates, Lin Ming's strength had far surpassed the past him from a few months ago. Killing a first-stage Life Destruction Elder would simply be a joke now.

As for the man and woman who were having sex, Lin Ming simply left them where they were, unconscious. He rearranged them so that it seemed like they had fallen asleep from exhaustion. Lin Ming didn't really care about such minor trash as them. He had a very singular and explicit goal now: to kill every Elder here.

In the South Sea war, every Elder of the South Sea Demon Region

was bathed in the blood of countless Wartime Alliance disciples. To the Wartime Alliance, a first-stage Life Destruction Elder was nearly the strongest war strength possible. It was nearly impossible to find a force to contend with them.

As he snuck his way along, Lin Ming relied on his own keen perception and powerful soul force to avoid another sentry post. He finally approached the great palace of the first Elder.

Carefully probing the situation, Lin Ming saw a gray-robed man. This old man was studying a jade slip with one hand while playing with two glass balls in the other. In front of him was a porcelain cup filled with a crimson, blood-like liquid.

“The first one...”

Lin Ming took a deep breath. He had noticed this Elder had attacked the South Sea Demon Region the first time around. This Elder’s cultivation was only at the early first stage of Life Destruction. With Lin Ming’s newfound abilities, killing him would only take a heartbeat.

Lin Ming quietly rubbed his spatial ring and withdrew the heaven-step spear.

At this time, the Elder stirred in his room. His eyebrows twisted together. Although he didn’t discover Lin Ming, he could feel a thick killing intent aimed at him.

Who!?

The first-stage Life Destruction Elder reflexively moved to draw out his lance from his spatial ring. But at this time, the great wooden doors to his room suddenly shattered into fine powder as a highly concentrated spear light thrust straight towards him, aimed right between his eyebrows.

Before the spear light had arrived, the gray-robed Elder already felt an incomparable pain between his eyebrows, as if he had already been pierced.

In that instant, the gray-robed Elder's hairs all stood on end. He could clearly feel the specter of death looming over him!

“Haa!”

The gray-robed Elder issued a deep shout and a lance jumped from his spatial ring into his hands as if it had a mind of its own. He no longer had time to dodge. He decided to thrust his lance at Lin Ming, forcing him away by threat of mutual annihilation, but at this instant, the gray-robed Elder felt the space around him twist. In the next instant, that singular white spear seemed to teleport right in front of him.

A spear pierced right through his skull, and the power of a battle spirit erupted, instantly shredding that gray-robed Elder's brain to pieces, blood and pulp shooting out!

The Elder had instantaneously died!

Lin Ming hadn't chosen a weak point like the heart or throat, but instead the brain. This was to immediately kill his opponent without allowing him to even cry out.

“Done.”

Lin Ming took away the gray-robed Elder's spatial ring and corpse. Afterwards, he quietly left the room. His first assassination here had gone smoothly.

However, just as Lin Ming was about to find the second Life Destruction Elder, a loud and deafening alarm horn sounded over the entire Demon Island. Then, torches lit up from all over, converging from all directions of the Demon Island, composing a massive line of flares.

Every Revolving Core Protector and Life Destruction Elder flew into the air, spreading their perception to search the entire area.

Lin Ming was startled. “I've been discovered!”

He felt he had done everything cleanly and quietly; he actually had no idea how he was found out.

“The South Sea Demon Region is truly worthy as a fifth-grade sect with thousands of years of inheritance; they have methods to guard against assassins!” Lin Ming muttered to himself. He guessed

that there was probably a lifesoul jade slip or some other similar mark on the first-stage Life Destruction Elder. As soon as he died, this contingency was activated and he was found out.

The flying Life Destruction Elders and Revolving Core Protectors quickly locked onto Lin Ming's position. They soon surrounded him.

Since he was already discovered, Lin Ming no longer hid himself. He gripped his white spear and soared up into the air.

He wondered, did all of these martial artists surrounding him realize that their fate was to be chased down and slaughtered by him?

There were a total of six Life Destruction Elders. The one leading them wore a silver mask. He was the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign!

This Elder instantly recognized Lin Ming. He clenched his teeth in hatred. "Little brat, so it was you again!"

Lin Ming glanced at the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign. Just ten days ago, he had followed Xuan Wuji to chase down the Giant Leviathan. Although his attacks weren't too strong, he had attacked the Giant Leviathan's already opened wounds, causing no small amount of damage.

After the Giant Leviathan had submerged deep inside the sea

trench, the masked Elder could no longer help due to the massive water pressure. Thus, he returned to the South Sea Demon Region.

Lin Ming sneered. “That is also what I want to say. So it’s you again, eh? I was just about to look for you to settle some old debts, but I never thought you’d deliver yourself right to my doorstep!”

Chapter 711 – Sweeping Through The South Sea Demon Region

Hearing Lin Ming's arrogant words, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign flew into a furious rage. "You want to settle old debts? Hehe, brat, you think you're talking in a dream or something? Your Giant Leviathan is already stuck within the deep sea trench! Without the Giant Leviathan, I wonder just how much longer your flagrant attitude will remain. Hahaha, really, you could have walked the road to heaven but you chose to burst through to the gates of hell instead! Today you are not leaving!"

The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's voice was full of confidence and bluster. However, just as he spoke, he found the strength behind his words trailing away. He discovered that the place where Lin Ming had come from was exactly where Third Elder Sun lived. Because the warning had sounded out so suddenly, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign was in a hurry to catch up and didn't have enough time to investigate just who had died. Now that he carefully scanned over everyone, he found that, of the seven Elders, only Third Elder Sun was missing.

Was he the one that was killed?

Was that even possible?

The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's heart jumped into his throat. Third Elder Sun being so quietly killed meant that Lin Ming had strength at least equal to the peak of the second stage of Life Destruction!

Either that or there was some great expert behind Lin Ming, hiding away in secret, who had such a strength. Thinking of this, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign felt weak at heart. It wasn't just him; the other five Elders also thought of this. Lin Ming was not an idiot. Unless he had absolute belief in himself, why would he come to the South Sea Demon Region?

“Line up in formation!” The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign spat out an order.

If martial artists formed a killing array together, then they could enhance the ability of their combined attacks, greatly increasing their total combat strength. In Yin Yang Profound Palace, those eight mid and late Revolving Core martial artists were able to form an array formation that allowed them to contend with a first-stage Life Destruction powerhouse for at least 10 breaths of time.

Those were only mid and late Revolving Core powerhouses. And now, in front of Lin Ming, were six Life Destruction realm martial artists.

“Dream on!”

Lin Ming's eyes shone with a thick killing intent. How could he possibly allow these people to just do as they wish and form a killing array around him? Did they think he was an idiot?

He stepped upon Golden Roc Shattering the Void and flash stepped in front of a first-stage Life Destruction Elder, his white

spear thrusting forth!

“Huh?”

The first-stage Life Destruction Elder was horrified. How could Lin Ming be so fast? He had simply appeared in front of him like the ghosts and gods. There didn't even seem to be a path of movement; he had just materialized right there in front of him!!

The Life Destruction Elder couldn't bother thinking about such things. He raised his sword to defend, but in that moment, he felt as if Lin Ming's speed had suddenly slowed down. As his spear thrust forward, it actually wasn't much faster than the attack from a normal body transformation martial artist.

However, even though Lin Ming's spear was slow, the Elder's own movements were even slower. He had no time to defend against Lin Ming's attacks!

“Nooooo!!”

That Life Destruction Elder's eyes widened. He could only watch on helplessly as Lin Ming's spear pierced through his throat, an ice-cold feeling spread through his neck. The Life Destruction Elder gazed with eyes like a dying fish's, his face full of unwillingness. He could not believe that he had died under the hands of a mere 21-year-old youth, against a single spear jab that he had no power to resist.

In full view of everyone, a Life Destruction Elder was instantly killed. All of the other Life Destruction Elders and Revolving Core Protectors were utterly stunned.

What kind of strength was this!?

How could he possibly be this strong!?!?

Moreover, the way Lin Ming had moved was far too strange. It was like he had simply teleported over. Although that spear strike didn't seem too fast, that Elder's speed had become even slower, as if mired in tar. That Elder had only been able to stare blankly at Lin Ming's spear as it killed him, not even able to lift his sword.

These martial artists were not stupid enough to think that the Life Destruction Elder had deliberately slowed his movements because he had been bewitched or was playing around. Something strange was happening here, as if a demonic force was present. Lin Ming was wholly emitting a strange energy.

Everyone was shocked, unable to respond. But, Lin Ming was not fazed at all. He swung his spear, shaking off the body of that second Life Destruction Elder's corpse. Then, with a single forward step, he instantly arrived in front of the third Life Destruction Elder, his spear raised in a thrust.

In that instant, that Life Destruction Elder felt a chill crawl up his back. It was like he wasn't facing a 21-year-old youth, but instead the very incarnation of a Death God!

“Run!”

The disparity was just too great. The Life Destruction Elder didn't even have the least bit of courage to resist, instead immediately turning to run away.

The other Elders also swiveled around and dashed away like their lives depended on it. The South Sea Demon Region martial artists were inherently self-centered to begin with. It was impossible for them to trade their own life for the fate of their sect. After encountering such a strange and mystical youth who seemed like the God of Death come to slay them, they all chose to run.

The four first-stage Life Destruction Elders instantly scattered. As for the 20-some-odd Revolving Core realm Protectors, they all turned and ran after seeing this scene occur before them. Only the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign was left over; this was because he had some degree of confidence in his strength. He was suspicious about Lin Ming's strength, thus he hesitated for a moment.

But in the moment of hesitation, Lin Ming had already caught up to that first-stage Life Destruction Elder he had targeted. The spear in his hand thrust out, piercing through the Elder's back leaving no chance for resistance.

As the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign saw this, he finally became scared, losing any and all spunk he had previously. He quickly took out a small jade-green sword from his spatial ring. As this small sword appeared, it actually stretched out into the air, forming into a massive pair of twin wings that attached themselves

onto the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's body. With these jade-green wings supporting him, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign turned without further ado and flew away!

Even those 30 Revolving Core Protectors scattered in separate directions, none of them even close anyone else, in the fear that by gathering too much they would create a path that the death god could follow.

After the Revolving Core Protectors left, those extreme Xiantian martial artists realized the situation had deteriorated, and they turned to run away.

As for the other guards, they had all gathered here with determination and wrath in their eyes, but now they were completely dumbfounded. They never thought that after all the Elders had gathered together and encircled the assassin, that assassin would actually beat them into the ground, killing them and making them all run away!

By this point, none of them were stupid enough to approach Lin Ming; that was just the same as running to their deaths. What a joke. If even the Eastern Faction Sovereign ran away, then even all of them together wouldn't be enough for this death god to lift a pinky. They didn't dare escape either. With their Xiantian realm cultivation, just this midnight killer's spear light itself was able to slaughter them all as they fled!

At this moment, a strange scene occurred. The four guard squadrons of the South Sea Demon Region stood 1000 feet away from Lin Ming, bewildered, unsure of what they should do as they

all glanced at each other.

Floating in air, Lin Ming indifferently looked at all the martial artists that were flying away, trying to escape. His perception instantly covered them like a surging tide, including even the Elders and the 30 Revolving Core Protectors!

There were simply too many of them. If they all escaped in separate directions, then according to common sense, even a fourth-or fifth-stage Life Destruction powerhouse would find it nearly impossible to kill them all. After all, a martial artist's perception was limited. If they flew far enough and dove into the sea, finding some deserted island to hide at, then it would be difficult to chase them.

Lin Ming's eyes flashed with an icy killing intent. His battle spirit fused with his Asura force field, instantly surging outwards!

A force field was a special intangible existence; it was able to expand at near the speed of light. In an instant, it overtook every martial artist. With the support of the battle spirit, the Asura force field enveloped the entire area.

In the 1000-mile forbidden zone of the Eternal Demon Abyss, Lin Ming had been trapped in a maze of space and time, unable to find his way out. As he tried to figure out what had happened, he had left array symbol marks that had been eventually erased by a strange and mystical power. It was only after leaving behind a special mark mixed in with his battle spirit that Lin Ming had been able to slowly figure out just what was happening in that space-time maze, slowly leading his group out of the 1000-mile forbidden

zone.

The battle spirit had a special characteristic of being everlasting and endlessly enduring. After a Supreme Elder died in the Eternal Demon Abyss, and with the passing of tens or hundreds of thousands of years, their bodies would have long rotted away, the energy within them condensing into Demon God Bones. But their battle spirit still wasn't destroyed. Rather, it was able to preserve itself, and sometimes even turn into a very elementary consciousness.

Thus, making a mark with a battle spirit was the best method!

Within the Asura force field, every Elder and Protector of the South Sea Demon Region instantly had a wisp of battle spirit attached to their bodies!

A battle spirit was an extremely high-level power. Normally only a Divine Sea powerhouse would be able to trace it. Even the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign had absolutely no idea what this energy was. All of them only felt that the instant they were covered by the terrifying pressure of the Asura force field their speed dropped, breathing became hard, and even their heartbeats seemed suppressed. In fear, they pushed their strengths past their limits to flee, only relaxing when they escaped the range of the force field.

None of them knew that at that moment, Lin Ming had already marked each and every one of them with his battle spirit. But, even if they realized this, it would still be useless. They simply had no knowledge of what a battle spirit was, and also had no way to erase

it!

“I’ve locked onto them all!”

Lin Ming’s eyes radiated a devastating light. The furthest martial artist fleeing right now was a yellow-robed first-stage Life Destruction Elder. He was the first one to run and he was also quite fast. He had already made it around ten miles away. The second farthest was the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign. He had a strange pair of jade-green wings assisting him; his speed was the quickest of everyone running. It was just that his start had been a bit later, and now he had only made it eight or nine miles away. As for those Revolving Core martial artists, they were only a few miles away.

Lin Ming decided to give up on the second-stage Life Destruction Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign for now. His first target was that yellow-robed Elder ten miles away.

If he wanted to kill that Eastern Faction Sovereign, it might take more than a few moves. If he also had some sort of master move that was able to save his life, then that would extend the battle by some time. Afterwards, having to chase after the other martial artists would be much harder, even if he had a battle spirit mark on them.

After choosing his target, Lin Ming sneered. His feet stepped upon Golden Roc Shattering the Void, and the space beneath him suddenly shrank. His flying was similar to teleportation. From the distance, it appeared as if Lin Ming’s figure suddenly disappeared into space, abruptly appearing several miles away. Such a method

of flying was so fast that it made one's scalp tingle with fear.

The more Lin Ming came to understand the Concept of Space, the closer he came to reaching the third layer of "Golden Roc Shattering the Void." Unfortunately, it was just that Lin Ming's Concept of Wind was still lacking throughout, much less refined than his other Concepts. This caused his movement technique to appear strange, missing a hint of flexibility and nimbleness. Otherwise, he would be able to fly even faster!

As for that yellow-robed Elder in the lead, he seemed to know a special fleeing movement technique. His entire body was wrapped in a thick black fog. As he flew away, the fog formed a tail behind him like a streaking comet, making him seem like a very large, black snake. This movement technique obviously didn't come from the South Sea Demon Region. It was likely some ability obtained from some ancient ruins somewhere.

"Damn it all. It's like I've seen a ghost or something. To think that a 20-year-old boy could be so strong. Luckily, this old man's evasion ability is quite good, otherwise I probably would have died here today!"

Chapter 712 – Thorough Slaughter

“And there’s that damned Xuan Wuji. To think he goes to chase the Giant Leviathan on his own and leaves behind this scourge in the South Sea Demon Region! Xuan Wuji, as long as you do not kill that boy, it’s impossible for me to return to the South Sea Demon Region. If I run into him again then chances are that my life will fall under his hands. Luckily, I found this ‘Evil Soulfire Step’ in the possession of a late Revolving Core martial artist I’ve killed. With this, on top of my own speed, I should be able to easily escape this catastrophe.”

The yellow-robed Elder simply never expected Lin Ming to chase him in order to kill him. After all, out of all the Elders there, he was one of the weakest; Lin Ming shouldn’t be attracted to him. And, in terms of speed, he was one of the best here. If one or two Elders were to die, then it likely wouldn’t be his turn.

“That Lin brat can’t be possessed by a ghost or something. He shouldn’t do something as unreasonable as chasing me. I hope that he chooses to bother with the Eastern Faction Sovereign. With that old man stalling for time, I’ll be much safer.”

As the yellow-robed Elder was thinking about the possible scenarios, he suddenly heard the rustling of wind behind him and a faint rumbling sound approaching him.

“Huh? What?”

As the yellow-robed Elder turned around, he was frightened

almost to the point where his spirit left his body. Behind him, just six or seven miles away, there was a black-clothed youngster chasing after him with a bloodstained white spear, his hair flying recklessly as thunder and fire covered his body. With every step he took, he seemed to teleport two-three miles ahead.

At this speed, Lin Ming would overtake him in less than ten breaths' time!

“What kind of movements are these!?!?” The yellow-robed Elder turned whiter than death. He punched himself in the chest, forcing out the power of his blood essence as he escaped at a speed surpassing his limits.

However, this ‘Evil Soulfire Step’ was, in the end, far from being able to compare with the exquisite ‘Golden Roc Shattering the Void’. Moreover, he was also weaker than Lin Ming. Now, in just a few breaths' time, Lin Ming was already chasing right behind him. He could feel that Lin Ming's fearful killing intent had already locked onto him.

The yellow-robed Elder was scared breathless. In his entire life, he had experienced many dangerous life-or-death situations, and had stumbled through many danger zones. But, he had never felt the specter of death approach him as much as it did today!

It hadn't even been a hundred years since he had successfully crossed into Life Destruction. He still had a lavish and sumptuous life to enjoy! He refused to die here today!

“Wait... Wait, wait, wait! Young Hero Lin, do not kill me! I... I can give you any information you need, as well as all of my wealth!” the yellow-robed Elder desperately cried out.

However, Lin Ming didn't seem to care at all, as if he hadn't even heard these words. He simply grasped his white spear and thrust out!

“Ahhh! This old man will fight you to the death!” Seeing Lin Ming's ruthlessness, the yellow-robed Elder took up a crescent halberd in hand and struck at Lin Ming.

However, at this moment, he suddenly felt an enormous pressure smashing into him, like an endless tide. His breathing became heavy, his heart nearly stopping, and the blood in his veins and the true essence in his meridians stagnated, nearly reversing course. At the same time, a killing intent so pure and thick struck him, that it almost suffocated him to death. He felt as if he had plunged into one of hell's blood ponds. Under this chilling killing intent, the fires of his life were like a candle in the wind, about to go out at any time.

This was the Asura force field and Death God force field released by Lin Ming.

“No...!” the yellow-robed Elder miserably sobbed.

However, he was still unable to change his fate; Lin Ming's spear pierced his throat!

Blood sprayed, and the yellow-robed Elder died. Out of the seven Life Destruction Elders still within the South Sea Demon Region, there were now only four left!

Lin Ming waved his left hand, taking the yellow-robed Elder's corpse and spatial ring. Then, without pause, he turned around and chased towards the second Life Destruction Elder!

With Lin Ming's 'Golden Rock Shattering the Void' approaching the third layer, his speed could no longer be compared with that of a normal martial artist.

Out of the remaining Life Destruction Elders, this second one was the slowest of all. The reason Lin Ming decided to chase him was just because he was the farthest away from everyone else.

After half an incense stick of time, Lin Ming was only ten miles away from this Life Destruction Elder. Lin Ming was already able to sense him with his perception. He was a middle-aged man with sharp ears and round cheeks. He was flying away with extreme caution, revolving his protective true essence to the limit, at the same time being tense and wary of his surroundings.

After leaving the South Sea Demon Region's three islands, this Elder had stumbled into a small isolated jungle. There, he fully restrained his energy and hid in a pile of lush green bushes.

At that time, the moon was hidden behind the clouds, and the night gales were howling. This sharp-eared Elder seemed to be proficient in camouflage techniques. Lowering himself into the

bushes, he seemed to melt into the surrounding environment, becoming one with the earth. Even if one knew he was there and used their perception to look for him, it would still be difficult to find any trace of him.

“I should be safe here.”

The sharp-eared Elder's face darkened, becoming gloomy. He didn't know just where this Lin Ming had come from. How could he have suddenly become so strong? A twenty-or-so-year-old youngster was actually chasing someone like him, who was nearly a thousand years old, into the jungle. If this news ever spread out then it would truly be laughable.

“That Lin Ming brat never locked onto me from the start. Even if he finishes off his first target and then comes chasing after me, it will still be useless. With my camouflage technique, even Xuan Wuji might not be able to find me.” The sharp-eared Elder had faith in his own abilities. If a few Life Destruction Elders were to die because Lin Ming chased them down, he definitely wouldn't be one of them.

“I won't be able to return to the South Sea Demon Region for quite some time. I'll stay and hide here for a while before reassessing the situation.”

As the sharp-eared Elder thought this, his face suddenly froze in place. At the same time, his heart sank into the depths of despair!

He watched helplessly as a black-clothed youth carrying a white

spear fell into an open area just thirty feet in front of him. This black-clothed youngster turned in his direction and cruelly smiled at him, as if he could see through all lies and illusions!

Seeing this young man's smile, the sharp-eared Elder felt a chill crawl up his spine, his spirit fading into the heavens!

‘How did he discover me!?’

The sharp-eared Elder couldn't believe this. Now that things had come to this point, any of his camouflage techniques had no meaning whatsoever.

His forehead was dripping with sweat, but he forced his heart to stay calm as he began to think about escaping possibilities. But at this point, Lin Ming laughed and said, “This Elder's camouflage technique is quite skilled; much better than my own in the past. But, in such a hot and humid place with so many insects everywhere, you must be suffering too much. Let me help you a bit!”

With these words, Lin Ming suddenly turned towards the bushes and thrust his spear!

The sharp-eared Elder shrieked like a cat that had its tail stepped on. He was ready to rush out, but at that moment, something strange occurred. All of the branches and leaves and plants around him seemed to twist like countless pythons, wrapping around him. The normally fragile plants seemed to become as tough as metal, forcefully holding him down.

If the Elder revolved his true essence to the limit, he could work his way out in less than two breaths' time. However, in front of Lin Ming, that was more than enough time to die a hundred times!

The sharp-eared Elder was frightened to the point that his soul fled his body. He raised his sword, ready to cut through the branches, but it was already too late. A cool feeling bloomed in his chest and an icy-white spear pierced through his heart!

His life fading away at a fast pace, the sharp-eared Elder lifted his eyes, staring at Lin Ming with unwillingness.

“Just... what happened...”

This was the last thought to pass through the sharp-eared Elder's mind.

He died without understanding how Lin Ming had discovered him, or how the surrounding bushes had managed to trap him.

Once the sharp-eared Elder died, the surrounding branches and leaves delivered his corpse into Lin Ming's hands. This was the simple application of battle spirit. The battle spirit could be attached to the foliage, moving it and forming a cage. This had been the fastest way to kill that sharp-eared Elder.

Lin Ming indifferently took the sharp-eared Elder's corpse and spatial ring. Then, he flew away again, chasing after the last first

stage Life Destruction Elder.

At this time, Lin Ming had chased for a full quarter of an hour. Along the road, he slightly deviated off course to kill off any Revolving Core martial artist that passed within a hundred miles of him. Lin Ming didn't even bother taking in the spatial rings of martial artists of only this level. Even more, he simply burnt their corpses to ashes with a fireball after killing them.

As he advanced, another quarter of an hour passed. Lin Ming finally sensed that sixth Life Destruction Elder.

This Elder and the sharp-eared Elder had chosen completely different escape paths. This one had run in a straight line for several dozen miles before temporarily stopping to make sure he did not have a tracing mark on him. Then, he changed directions, flying several dozen miles, and then changed directions again and again, in a zigzag line.

For a common martial artist, chasing after him would have been impossible. But to Lin Ming, this Elder's zigzagging path only made it much easier to chase him.

This black-clothed Life Destruction Elder kept his head down as he flew away. He had originally worn a red-robe, but in order to disguise himself, he had switched into black night-clothes. Even though he had already escaped several hundred miles away, he didn't once relax his guard. He kept running away at full speed.

Just as he was thinking of how to inform Xuan Wuji of this

matter, he suddenly heard the wind twisting behind him.

The black-clothed Elder's heart turned cold.

‘Who!?’

He didn't think that Lin Ming was chasing him; he had already thrown him off long ago. But, as he looked back, he could see Lin Ming flying there, his hand gripping a bloodstained white spear as his two eyes flashed with the power of thunder!

“No...no... This isn't possible!”

The black-clothed Elder's mouth fell open. In that instant he felt his entire body turn leaden, his limbs ice-cold. Was this Lin Ming really human!?

As this thought crossed the black-clothed Elder's mind, Lin Ming's spear had already pierced towards him.

The black-clothed Elder's cultivation was much deeper than that of the last two. He was actually able to block one of Lin Ming's strikes. But, that was his limit.

Lin Ming's second spear easily thrust through the black-clothed Elder's dantian. With a twist, his Revolving Core shattered to pieces.

The black-clothed Elder died!

After putting away this corpse, Lin Ming began to chase after the remaining Revolving Core martial artists. To Lin Ming, these were only small fries.

Most of them had only escaped several hundred miles away. Then, they had diverged, some continuing to escape, some finding an island to hide, and some even plunging into the waters.

Lin Ming first killed the martial artists who kept on running. Killing these Revolving Core martial artists was much simpler. As long as he could come within several miles of them, he could simply flick his finger and kill them with a battle-spirit-infused wind current.

Lin Ming had no qualms about killing these South Sea Demon Region martial artists. In his view, killing one of them meant that there was one less future disaster in the world.

Life after life died under Lin Ming's hands!

Chapter 713 – To Those Who Remain In the South Sea Demon Region, Death!

Revolving Core martial artists were much easier to kill than Life Destruction martial artists. Not only were they slower, but their ability to resist was next to nothing. As long as Lin Ming was able to find one, he would instantly kill them.

Xiu!

Lin Ming flicked his finger at the sea surface and a massive spout of water shot up. Then, a moment later, a bright red ripple spread out and a corpse slowly surfaced.

Lin Ming shot out a fireball, instantly turning this corpse to ash.

That had been the last of the escaping Revolving Core Protectors. He had hid underneath the surface of the water. But, to Lin Ming, he was no different than an ostrich that buried its head in sand.

Up to now, over 20 Revolving Core Protectors and six first-stage Life Destruction Elders had been completely wiped out!

The only person remaining was...the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign!

Lin Ming tracked the location of the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign, and then his lips curved up in a sly smile. That

old fox had actually returned to the South Sea Demon Region's three Demon Islands.

He had run away, but then he returned to the South Sea Demon Region.

It was said that the most dangerous places were often the safest. If he hid in some secret location within his sect, it truly would be difficult to find him.

After a quarter of an hour, Lin Ming returned to the Demon Region's three islands. At this time, the Demon Region islands were nearly emptied of people. The South Sea Demon Region shouldn't have been reduced to this ghostlike state just because of the invasion of a single person, but after seeing the several Life Destruction Elders run away, the other disciples naturally wouldn't stay.

Lin Ming silently arrived at a seemingly common and inconspicuously small building. Then, he swept out his spear, the spear light surging hundreds of feet away.

Bang!

A muffled explosion occurred; the entire building collapsed!

Earth cracked and stone crumbled. A black beam of light dropped down from the heavens; the basement of the building was pierced through by Lin Ming's spear.

A shockwave of true essence detonated in the air, bursting outwards. Within the chaos, a silver-masked man ran out in a panic, surprised to see Lin Ming standing right outside. He had been hiding in a secret chamber with an array formation that was able to isolate away all perception and probing. He didn't believe that Lin Ming had any way to track him. That was, unless he had some sort of tracing mark on his body.

But, before this, he had already examined his entire body, not discovering any sort of energy mark. So what was happening?

“Brat, don't think that I am really afraid of you!” The Eastern Faction Sovereign grasped a ten-foot long war halberd, his eagle-like eyebrows slanted up in fury.

Lin Ming remained silent. Without a word, the Heretical God Force opened and his battle spirit poured into his spear. He thrust straight at the Eastern Faction Sovereign's throat.

Seeing this unstoppable spear stabbing towards him, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign roared out, his entire body revolving to the limit with true essence, “Heavenly Demon Suppression!”

In that instant, on top of the Eastern Faction Sovereign's halberd, a great black Giant Demon phantom rushed out, snarling as it clawed towards Lin Ming.

However, just as the Giant Demon phantom appeared, an

invisible force field crashed down with overwhelming force. The Giant Demon phantom broke apart in this force field, like a shard of ice dropped in boiling water, instantly reducing to less than half its size!

The Eastern Faction Sovereign was startled. He fiercely bit down on his tongue and spat out a spray of blood essence on his halberd edge. The light of that halberd immediately became much more dazzling and radiant.

Lin Ming's simple spear clashed with the Giant Demon phantom. With a sizzling sound, the Giant Demon phantom was easily pierced through with the battle spirit infused spear light. It paused for the slightest instant before piercing towards the Eastern Faction Sovereign's throat again.

“Demon Shadow Division!”

The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's eyes flashed with a cold light. His body turned into three phantoms as he dodged Lin Ming's spear.

“Hmm?” Lin Ming was startled. His spear strike right now didn't seem particularly special, but in truth it had contained the Concept of Space as well as his battle spirit. In the midst of this fearsome strike, he had even locked the space around the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign, making it incomparably difficult to defend against. Still, he never expected that the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign would still manage to avoid it.

It seemed that a second-stage Life Destruction Elder was indeed quite special.

After his body split into three, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign didn't pause at all. He turned in three different directions and ran away!

This sort of secret escape technique would have confused a normal martial artist. But to Lin Ming, it was simply a frivolous action. The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign already had Lin Ming's battle spirit mark on him. With just a thought he had already locked onto the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's true body.

Lin Ming took a step forwards – Golden Roc Shattering the Void!

Lin Ming instantly appeared a mile ahead. As he took another step forwards, he flashed stepped right in front of the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign.

Chasing Thunder!

The white spear sparkled with lightning. Lin Ming's spear had reached the pinnacle of speed. The keen electric light hadn't even reached the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign but it already made him tingle.

“Lin Ming, I have no grudge nor enmity with you! The one responsible for annihilating your Divine Phoenix Island is the

Xuan Clan's Xuan Wuji! That had nothing to do with me! So why must you chase me down and not let me go!"

In the face of a speed and striking power that far surpassed his own, the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign was exceptionally anxious. But at this time, he could only brace himself and face this calamity.

Clang!

The sound of striking metal sounded. The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's halberd was actually cut in half by Lin Ming's spear!

Lin Ming's spear was already a much higher grade to begin with. With the addition of the increased power from the battle spirit, cutting apart the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's treasure halberd was easy.

"Ahhh!"

The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign gave a crazed shout. He threw the halberd pieces at Lin Ming, hoping to force him away.

Lin Ming didn't even bother glancing at these halberd pieces. He stabbed out his spear!

Puff!

The long spear pierced through the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's jaw, angling into his throat and cutting through his neck even as his spinal cord was completely crushed to bits with a simple twist. The Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign stared with wide eyes, disbelief on his face as he looked at Lin Ming's chest. When he threw those halberd pieces just now, they had pierced through Lin Ming's chest. Although his attack had been done in haste and there wasn't much true essence within it, it was still 30-40% of his strength. Still, even though it struck Lin Ming, it hadn't even broken through the skin.

‘Was this boy even human....’

This was the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign's last thought. In the next moment, Lin Ming swept his spear out, directly beheading the second-stage Life Destruction Elder.

Lin Ming rubbed his right chest; he was quite satisfied with his current defensive capabilities.

That sudden attack just now from the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign was equal to the all-out attack of a peak first-stage Life Destruction powerhouse. In the face of such an attack, he hadn't even needed to defend himself with true essence; he was able to block it with just his mortal body. Besides some slight pain there wasn't even the slightest injury.

These were the effects of the profound gold divine fruit.

Not only had he absorbed the profound gold divine fruit, but he had even opened the second of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. This had caused his mortal body to be comparable to that of a top earth-step treasure.

Lin Ming calmly put away the Demon Region Eastern Faction Sovereign’s body and spatial ring. Then, holding his long spear, he continuously twirled it in the air. Spear light shot out, shredded massive sections of rock in a far off mountain cliff as large letters began appearing on it.

“To those who remain in the South Sea Demon Region, death!”

These words contained Lin Ming’s Death God force field. If a martial artist with a low cultivation saw these words, their life would instantly be extinguished. Even a Xiantian or Revolving Core martial artist would be affected by the pure killing intent; it would be impossible for them to continue looking at these words.

After leaving behind these words, Lin Ming released his perception that had casually swept through the islands of the South Sea Demon Region. Nearly all the Revolving Core martial artists had fled. The only ones left over were the small fry minions that he had no interest in.

Displaying his movement technique, Lin Ming left the Demon Region’s three islands.

.....

Six hours later, deep in the South Sea...

100,000 feet underwater a middle-aged martial artist was quietly suspended. His breath and heart rate were slowed to an extremely low rate. This middle-aged martial artist wore black clothes and his two straight eyebrows slanted ferociously high. Underneath these two eyebrows was a pair of deep eyes, their intense stare penetrating through the sea as if they could see past all illusions and lies.

This black-clothed martial artist was Xuan Wuji.

He had already been floating here for several days. His perception was locked onto the Giant Leviathan in the deep sea trench. As long as the Giant Leviathan surfaced to 250,000 or above, he would then reinitiate his attack.

Although he couldn't kill the Giant Leviathan, if the attacks on it accumulated, one day, sooner or later, it would die from exhaustion and blood loss.

"Xuan Wuji, we've already waited here so many days. How much longer will we keep guard here?" The one who asked was a golden-furred ape. He was the Patriarch of the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan.

Xuan Wuji didn't even glance back at the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Patriarch. He said without any hint of emotion, "As long as half a year and as short as a few months. Sooner or later, the Giant Leviathan will fall by my hands."

“Good, then this King will accompany you here for half a year!” The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch’s eyes flashed with a sharp light. The Giant Leviathan was a kind of Saint Beast recorded in the ancient texts of the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan. If they could take its heart and spine marrow, refining it into a pill with their clan’s secret techniques, then they could use these pills to directly enhance the physique of their Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan’s martial artists.

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch had great faith that, if he could obtain these treasures, then there would be high hopes for him reaching the Divine Sea.

When that time came, he could rule over a large region of the deep South Sea. He could even take a portion of the resources from the entire southern Sky Spill Continent.

As Xuan Wuji and the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch were speaking, a current of water twisted into a spinning orb in front of them, followed by a radiant blue flash of light. This was the light of an underwater sound transmitting talisman.

The voices of the South Sea Demon Region’s scouts entered Xuan Wuji’s ears. After hearing the message, Xuan Wuji’s body shook. In the next moment, his eyes grew so heated they seemed to spill over with flames.

The South Sea Demon Region had been crushed. Seven Life Destruction Elders, including the second-stage Life Destruction Easter Faction Sovereign, as well as 20-some-odd Revolving Core Protectors, most of them at the mid and late Revolving Core realm,

had died! Over 30 individuals had been completely wiped out!

And before Lin Ming fled, he even left behind a few words within the South Sea Demon Region—“To those who remain in the South Sea Demon Region, death!”

Because of these words, coupled with the fact that Lin Ming had raised a bloody storm of death within the South Sea Demon Region, many of their martial artists had already fled!

A Demon Region martial artist cared only for themselves. No one would take their life as a joke or gamble. If they were targeted by a death god, who would still dare to stay in the Demon Region’s three islands?

“Lin Ming!”

Xuan Wuji roared. All of the water around him suddenly stirred, creating a violent vortex.

Because of a single person, because of Lin Ming, nearly every South Sea Demon Region Life Destruction Elder had died. The only ones left over were Xuan Yuqie and Xuan Wuji!

A fifth-grade sect took Life Destruction martial artists as Elders and Revolving Core martial artists as Protectors. Now that there were only two Life Destruction martial artists left over in the South Sea Demon Region, there weren’t enough for them to be considered a fifth-grade sect anymore. Solely through Lin Ming’s

strength, he had chopped the fifth-grade South Sea Demon Region into a fourth-grade sect!

Chapter 714 – Name of the Death God

That very night, news of the assault on the South Sea Demon Region spread out like a tide.

Upon learning this, within the Five Element Region, Zhan Yunjian, the Sunfire Princess, and everyone else was happy and excited.

“Lin Ming just gives too many pleasant surprises. I thought that after Xuan Wuji left seclusion, Lin Ming might be suppressed for some time. Perhaps even that Xuan Wuji would have managed to take back the Giant Leviathan. But I never imagined that Lin Ming would kill his way through the entire the South Sea Demon Region by himself, and turn that fifth-grade South Sea Demon Region into a fourth-grade sect.” the Sunfire Princess giddily said.

Zhan Yunjian took a deep breath and shook his head, saying, “It’s not just falling to a fourth-grade sect. If Xuan Wuji doesn’t return to the South Sea Demon Region, then the entire South Sea Demon Region could disintegrate because of Lin Ming. When Lin Ming returned, he wasn’t yet strong enough to match a second stage Life Destruction master. But now, after just several months, he was actually able to reach this point through his strength alone. How ridiculously unbelievable....”

Several months ago, Lin Ming had broken into the South Sea Demon Region the second time. He had trotted in on the Giant Leviathan and had dug up the entire medicine garden, including the spiritual earth! In front of Lin Ming, the fifth-grade sect was like a lamb in front of a butcher, only able to lie there to be

slaughtered.

The first time that Lin Ming had broken into the South Sea Demon Region, he had also relied on the strength of the Giant Leviathan, managing to kill a massive amount of low-level disciples. Both the first and second time he had gone to the South Sea Demon Region, the disaster had been the cause of the Giant Leviathan's strength.

But now, this third time, he had actually relied on his own combat strength, killing only high ranking martial artists!

Out of the seven great Life Destruction Elders, none had been spared. And over twenty Revolving Core Protectors had been buried along with them, most of them at the mid and late Revolving Core realm.

Also, it had been reported that after Lin Ming had killed his way in, all of these people had scattered, running into different directions. No one was an idiot, they would naturally wish to escape. Still... Even so, none of them had been able to escape the fate of annihilation!

For all of them to scatter and yet be completely killed...

Was this a demon?

This ability to kill others far exceeded the understanding of ordinary people. It was so great that the martial artists of the

South Sea Demon Region were left fleeing away in abject despair and fear.

Then, before Lin Ming left, he had also jotted down a message, 'To those who remain in the South Sea Demon Region, death!'

These words seemed to contain the Concept of Slaughter. A weak martial artist would be severely wounded just glancing at these words.

Now, there was not a single Life Destruction Elder remaining in the South Sea Demon Regions. And those words still stayed in the South Sea Demon Region sect; no one had dared to erase them.

Following this, the martial artists of the South Sea Demon Region began escaping in droves.

The reason why a martial artist joined a sect was for its training resources and its spiritual land. Now, nearly all of the training resources of the South Sea Demon Region had been destroyed by Lin Ming, and the rest had been looted. If they couldn't even keep their lives, then what was the point of staying in such a sect?

People were easily affected by general opinion. Once one martial artist decided to escape, of course, many others decided to join him. After all, in this vast and endless world, there were more sects than only the South Sea Demon Region.

But there were some martial artists that still knew that Xuan

Wuji and Xuan Yuqie were still alive, and stayed to show their loyalty. Even so, they did so with trepidation and fear. None of them dared to return to the Demon Region's three islands. They only hid on the surrounding islands, lest Lin Ming came back to look for them.

These people's so-called 'loyalty' was actually that, seeing a massive number of people leave the South Sea Demon Region, they hoped to gain some benefits by staying behind. But, this was far from true loyalty. If Xuan Wuji or Xuan Yuqie didn't return to manage the chaos, then these people would leave sooner or later.

This was why Zhan Yunjian said that the South Sea Demon Region might be ruined by Lin Ming alone!

As for Xuan Wuji, if he returned, then there was naturally no way for him to continue chasing the Giant Leviathan.

"It's really like a dream. Ah, just four years ago we attended Revered Master Tianguang's birthday banquet with Lin Ming. Although there was still a difference between us and Lin Ming's levels back then, it wasn't as exaggerated as it is now. I really wonder just what Lin Ming experienced these past years..." said Artic Ice Palace's Bai Aoxuan as she shook her head. She was no longer able to fathom what boundary had Lin Ming reached now.

.....

Several days later, Lin Ming had been given the title of Death God. This news spread throughout the entire South Sea. Even in

the Great Zen Region over a million miles away, there were still people who were aware of how Lin Ming had ravaged the South Sea Demon Region three times.

Flower Coil Restaurant was a restaurant with over a thousand years of history. It was located in the heart of Zen City.

Zen City was subordinate to the number one sect in the Great Zen Region, Great Zen Temple. Its City Lord was a Life Destruction powerhouse, and throughout the entire city, it was easy to spot Xiantian martial artists and even Revolving Core martial artists. Zen City was a land of martial artists.

Although Flower Coil Restaurant seemed ordinary, it was actually constructed from metal used to forge earth-step treasures. Since Flower Coil Restaurant had been built, it had withstood the tests of time, passing through wind and rain and calamities, but still emerging bright and new as if it were freshly constructed.

At this time, in a luxurious room on the second floor, there was a young man wearing an extravagant Kirin robe with a purple-gold crown nestled atop his head. He had a young girl on each of his sides. One seemed like a maid, and the other seemed to be a cute little nun.

On the opposite side of this purple-gold-crowned young man, there was an astoundingly beautiful and elegant young man. This youngster was dressed as a scholar, and held a folding fan in hand. When one looked carefully, one could see there was something particular about this young man; he didn't even have an Adam's apple, and his fingers were extraordinarily slim. This young man

was actually a young girl dressed up as a boy.

This strangely dressed young girl was quickly swinging her fan. She tittered and said, “Brother Yifeng, during this time’s outing for adventuring, I heard that there was something fun happenings in the South Sea. I wanted to go and join in on the fun, but now it seems as if it’s been stirred up by this Lin Ming and it’s not as chaotic as it was before. Ahh, so boring. But, this Lin Ming fellow is called a monstrous genius; perhaps he might not be any worse than Brother Yifeng. Brother Yifeng, what do you think?”

This young girl dressed as a boy and the man opposite of her called Li Yifeng both originated from the four Divine Kingdoms. Li Yifeng was one of the sons of one of the four Divine Kingdom’s Emperors.

They had come out to journey and gain experience, and had especially chosen the South Sea Demon Region. But never would they have imagined that just as they reached the Great Zen Region, they would learn news that the situation within the South Sea had changed so suddenly. As for main lead who had caused all these changes within the South Sea, it was Lin Ming. Thus, they had set their sights on him.

Li Yifeng didn’t speak. The young maid however, didn’t seem to be convinced. She said, “Humph, these South Sea country bumpkins have never seen the wide world. A fairly decent young elite came from their ranks and now they’re bragging so much. If they came to the four Divine Kingdoms, then their chins would probably fall off in awe!”

As the young maid spoke, she had a very smug and satisfied expression. If those small-time people came and saw what happened in the four Divine Kingdoms, it was the same as a country bumpkin coming to a major metropolis.

Besides this young maid, the other cute little nun also nodded vigorously. Although she didn't speak, her eyes and face were clearly full of confidence in Li Yifeng.

Li Yifeng smiled and lazily stretched out. As he bit on a toothpick he said, "It doesn't matter. Struggling all day and all night is so silly, ah. To live a great life, have fun, eat and drink to the heart's content, make love under the stars, that's the stuff. What use is there in struggling every day to be number one? Try too much and your head will explode!"

This Li Yifeng, with his purple gold crown and Kirin robe, seemed noble and handsome, but his personality was actually the opposite. He picked up a jug of wine and took a gulp before exclaiming, "This Flower Coil Restaurant's millennium-old Falling Autumn Leaf Wine is actually quite good. I'll have to make sure to bring along two extra jugs with me. But what a pity... without some young girls singing and dancing, this Zen City is just too old-fashioned and boring for me. No fun, totally no fun," Li Yifeng said as he shook his head.

Hearing Li Yifeng's completely unreliable words, the young girl disguised as a boy suddenly had a frosty expression. With disgust, she said, "Li Yifeng, for this time's outing I will make sure to record every word you say and everything you do. I will report this all to your Sir Shangchen!"

Li Yifeng nonchalantly said, “Meh, go ahead and report all you want. I’ve already violated around 800 rules or so anyways. I’ll have you know, lice do not fear being bitten. Go and add a few more faults on my list.”

Li Yifeng had a very ‘go ahead and bite me’ expression. It was truly aggravating for one’s nerves.

“You...” The young girl clenched her shining teeth. As for the young maid near Li Yifeng, she covered her mouth and laughed.

The young girl fiercely said, “Li Yifeng, if you go too far then Sir Shangchen will bring you back.”

“Heh, that depends on whether he can catch me or not. Do you know how hard it is to find a chance to come out and play? How could I go back to being surrounded by that group of old men? F*ck, ever since I was born, those old men have been bothering me all day long, touching me left and right. Shit, if I have to go back then I’ll really be driven insane!” Li Yifeng said as he leisurely drank his wine.

Then, he seemed to think of something. A devilish smile crossed his face, as if he were thinking of something naughty. “This Lin Ming is quite interested. Our next stop will be the South Horizon Region. I’ll go and visit him first before deciding on what to do next.”

.....

At this time, deep within the South Sea, Xuan Wuji was suspended in the pitch-black waters. Xuan Yuqie didn't even dare to speak or look ahead. Her hand on her chest, her head bowed, she waited for Xuan Wuji's orders.

Xuan Wuji indifferently said, "Yuqie, go back first and stabilize the will of the people."

As Xuan Yuqie heard Xuan Wuji's order, her heart tightened.

Go back?

If she went back, that didn't necessarily mean she would be able to stabilize the situation there. The key was her own strength. Facing Lin Ming, she might not even be able to persist for five moves. Once she encountered Lin Ming, death was inevitable.

Wasn't this just sending her to die?

Xuan Yuqie's lips twitched. She wanted to say something, but a cold light flashed in Xuan Wuji's eyes. "What? Is there a problem?"

"No..." Xuan Yuqie exhaled, feeling her heart turn cold. To Xuan Wuji, every person was just a pawn in his great game.

This was her sorrow, the sorrow of the weak. She bit her teeth and asked with despondence, "Should I lead the disciples

somewhere else?”

“Manage the matter yourself. You only need to support them for five months,” Xuan Wuji said, expressionless. Since the South Sea Demon Region had already turned into this state, stabilizing the hearts of the Revolving Core and Xiantian martial artists was worse than focusing his efforts here to kill the Giant Leviathan. As soon as the Giant Leviathan died, he could grab hold of Mu Qianyu and force Lin Ming to face him.

He had to take advantage of Lin Ming while he still hadn’t grown up, and kill him. If he couldn’t, and left him alive, then there would be no end to his future troubles.

“Haha, what wise words from Elder Xuan, right!” Beside Xuan Wuji, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch laughed as he said, “A real man must make choices. All those disciples that fled are unreliable and worthless trash. Although this disaster is a setback to the South Sea Demon Region, it’s also a good deed. Through this trial, those who left are all disloyal garbage, but those who remained are the extraordinary heroes. If you can take these heroes as your future foundation, then with Elder Xuan’s support, rebuilding the South Sea Demon Region wouldn’t be difficult at all! This King fully supports Elder Xuan’s decisions.”

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch’s goal was the Giant Leviathan’s heart and spine. He definitely wanted to stay here with Xuan Wuji to make sure they killed the Giant Leviathan.

When Xuan Yuqie heard the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch’s ‘comforting’ words, all she could hear was the gloating tone

behind it. She grit her teeth in hate, wanting to run a sword through the damned old ape.

But right now, she could only endure the insult. She coldly replied, “I do not need your judgement on how my South Sea Demon Region will pass this disaster!”

“Heh, Sovereign Xuan is truly like a thorn-filled rose, what a spicy attitude...” The Blue-Eyed Ape ignored Xuan Yuqie’s words, instead choosing to lasciviously harass her. As he was about to speak further, water twisted in front of him and a blue light shined.

A message sounded into the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch’s ear, the old ape’s smiling expression suddenly freezing as he listened.

After several breaths’ time, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch’s monkey face turned blue, and then a deeper blue, and then green. Both of his eyes looked as if they were about to spout fire.

A message had just come from his clan. His Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan’s Royal Palace had just been attacked by Lin Ming eight hours ago. They had lost four Life Destruction Princes and 20 Revolving Core Generals! In addition to that, hundreds of Xiantian and Houtian realm martial artists had died from the shockwaves of the fight!

Before Lin Ming had left, he had also left behind some words in

the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan's Royal Palace Square.

‘Stay in the deep sea. Ten lives a day!’

Only these words, and not even the Revolving Core martial artists were able to approach.

“That bastard!” The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch's intestines twitched with rage. Lin Ming was threatening him! For every day he didn't return Lin Ming would kill ten people!

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch had never imagined that Lin Ming would attack their Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan. Their clan headquarters were located 80,000 feet in the deep sea. At this depth, a human martial artist's combat efficiency, speed, and striking power would all be greatly weakened. But, the Turquoise-Eyed Apes wouldn't be affected at all.

Lin Ming didn't have anyone to share a water repelling technique with him, so just how had he been able to kill four Life Destruction Princes?

Within the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan's Royal Palace, there were now only four Life Destruction Princes in their entire clan. If they were killed, then the entire clan might perish! Even if Xuan Wuji went there, he would only be able to kill one or two at most; it was impossible to kill everyone!

Just what method had Lin Ming used, to efficiently kill those that

he wanted dead, not even giving them the chance to escape?

“Patriarch, what is it?” beside the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch, a second stage Life Destruction clansman nervously asked. The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch had obviously just received some terribly bad news. In truth, the moment he asked the question he already had an inkling as to what had occurred. But, he didn’t know just how bad the extent of damage was.

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch simply didn’t speak. His mood was extremely poor. Originally, when Lin Ming had launched a massive massacre within the South Sea Demon Region, he had relished their suffering. But in the flash of an eye, this dark star had been turned onto his own clan and people.

As Xuan Yuqie saw this, the corners of her lips curved into a happy smile. She was extraordinarily perceptive; it was easy to guess just what news the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch had received.

She faintly smiled at the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch, and asked with a ‘concerned’ expression, “What’s the matter? Could something have happened with your clan?”

Chapter 715 – King Level Smelting Trial

Facing Xuan Yuqie's mocking taunts, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch grew angry with shame. He had made a joke of the South Sea Demon Region at the start, but now it was Xuan Yuqie's turn to ridicule him.

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch coldly snorted and told the others behind him, "We are immediately returning!"

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan was no stronger than the South Sea Demon Region. However, the South Sea Demon Region was a sect. If their disciples died, they could always recruit more. As for the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan, they had limited numbers. For every clansman that died, it was impossible for to come up with more numbers at a fast speed. If Lin Ming was killing the outstanding elites of the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan, then the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch couldn't just sit idly and do nothing.

He had to return. Otherwise, if Lin Ming came back and used his strange tracking ability, then he could kill dozens of Revolving Core martial artists at the very least. This was not a loss that their clan could afford.

"Patriarch, are you planning to withdraw?"

Xuan Wuji frowned. If the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan withdrew from here, that meant he would lose a powerful ally. With him alone, it would be extremely difficult to deter the Giant Leviathan in any way.

Hearing Xuan Wuji's question, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch's face stiffened. "Elder Xuan, my apologies, but this King must return."

"Oh? You have to go back?" Xuan Yuqie sneered. "Ape King, wasn't it you who said that a real man had to make choices? All of those fleeing clansmen are definitely worthless rejects. Since that's the case, the disaster of your Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan is also a great fortune! Those who leave are disloyal, but those who remain are the extraordinary elites. At that time, you can use the remaining members to rebuild your foundation; reforming your clan shouldn't be difficult at all. Our South Sea Demon Region will also support you with everything we have! What do you think about this?"

One of the world's most humiliating matters was having your words tossed back in your face. Xuan Yuqie had deliberately copied the tone of the Ape King, leaving him speechless.

"Humph! You were speaking so much bullshit in such a rude manner, and now that you're the one in trouble, you decided to leave. How laughable!" Xuan Yuqie mercilessly mocked. Seeing the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch suddenly deflate, Xuan Yuqie was very happy.

As for Xuan Wuji, he simply glowered, a cold light flashing in his eyes. He stayed silent. Lin Ming was much more troublesome than he had anticipated.

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch also didn't speak any further. He simply cupped his hands and left. Now, the only ones left were Xuan Yuqie and Xuan Wuji.

Xuan Yuqie lightly exhaled. She carefully looked at Xuan Wuji, whispering, "Elder Xuan, should we..."

She hoped with every fiber of her body that Xuan Wuji would decide to return to the South Sea Demon Region and further consider matters. However, Xuan Wuji's response left her disappointed.

"You return first. If anything else pops up then use a water sound transmitting talisman to inform me."

Xuan Yuqie's heart sank. She knew that saying anything else now would be useless. She could only reply in a quiet voice, "Yes, I understand..."

To Xuan Wuji, his future breakthrough to the Divine Sea boundary was much more important than the fate of the entire South Sea Demon Region. He had absolute certainty that there was a great secret regarding Lin Ming's body. Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to make such frightening progress.

Xuan Wuji had already looked up Lin Ming and studied his background. Before fifteen years of age, Lin Ming had been nothing but the most average of youngsters. But, after he had reached fifteen years of age, he had suddenly soared into the heavens. In a mere six short years, he had gone from the first level

of body transformation to being able to kill a second stage Life Destruction powerhouse. Within the entire Sky Spill Continent, this was an absolutely unprecedented event!

To deal with such a person, Xuan Wuji could only attempt it before he grew anymore than this.

In Xuan Wuji's eyes, Lin Ming was a resolute individual who killed with decisiveness. He had one weakness, and that was that he cared too much for the safety of his friends and family. This could be seen from when Lin Ming had gone to rescue Qin Xingxuan.

Xuan Wuji had already taken this point into consideration, and that was why he clung so tightly to the Giant Leviathan. Those within were equal to his lifeblood. He believed that as long as he could capture Mu Qianyu and the others, then he could force Lin Ming to appear.

“Lin Ming, no matter what secret you have, I will find it!” Xuan Wuji clenched his fists, his mouth curving up in a brutal smile.

.....

At that time, 200,000 miles away, at Divine Phoenix Island...

After the South Sea Demon Region had looted Divine Phoenix Island, the entire land had become a dump.

When Lin Ming returned to the Sky Spill Continent, he had rushed into Divine Phoenix Island, killing the Elder stationed there even as all the little minions fled away. Now, the entire Divine Phoenix Island was a lonely and desolate land.

Nowadays, Divine Phoenix had become a gathering place for wild birds and beasts. They nested in the ruined buildings and the land was blighted with barren shrubs and the remnants of destruction. As the sea breeze blew over, the weeds swayed in the air, as if they were testifying to the once great magnificence of Divine Phoenix Island.

Lin Ming took step by step through the abandoned land. In front of him was a dilapidated building. There, on the roof, a group of crows and seabirds fluttered about. Because Divine Phoenix Island was a spiritual land, the vegetation, birds, and beasts all grew and bred at an extremely fast pace.

Passing through these broken buildings, Lin Ming came to an empty valley. He carefully extended his perception, exploring his entire surroundings. This valley was the most precious treasure of the entire Divine Phoenix Island... the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm!

This mystic realm had been left behind by the Ancient Phoenix Clan, and it was also the very source of Divine Phoenix Island's spiritual vein. As for how long ago the Ancient Phoenix Clan had existed, how glorious they had been, what sort of magnificent history they'd had, or how powerful a martial arts civilization they'd had, all of this had long been lost to time. But, what Lin Ming was absolutely sure of was that the Ancient Phoenix Clan was

in no way inferior to those from the Realm of the Gods. It was even possible that they had come here from the Realm of the Gods.

“I wonder why the Ancient Phoenix Clan came to Sky Spill Continent. Did they ever come into contact with that mysterious existence within the Eternal Demon Abyss?” Lin Ming muttered to himself.

He felt that that 100,000 years ago, the area in Sky Spill Continent’s history which was completely blank, there must have been some heaven-shaking secrets involved.

Lin Ming shook his head, no longer thinking about this. Soon, he arrived at the array formation of the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm.

In the end, Xuan Wuji had not left the deep sea area. This decision hadn’t surprised Lin Ming. Xuan Wuji was an ambitious and cruel individual of the demonic path. Everything he had done or would ever do was in order to pursue greater strength. Even the South Sea Demon Region was one of Xuan Wuji’s many chess pieces to reach higher peaks of power.

If the South Sea Demon Region would still be in its most prosperous state, then Xuan Wuji might care a little bit about it. But now, the current South Sea Demon Region was only a peak fourth-grade sect without Xuan Wuji. To him, it was simply nothing.

If Xuan Wuji didn’t leave, then Lin Ming could only defeat him with his own strength.

But now, he had just broken through to the middle Revolving Core realm and had also opened the second of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. It would be extremely difficult to greatly increase his strength in a short period of time in order to deal with Xuan Wuji.

In this sort of situation, Lin Ming had thought of the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm.

In a person's life, they could only enter the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm twice. The last time Lin Ming had entered, he had been thrust into the general level smelting trial, finally fully completing it.

But this time, Lin Ming's goal was clear. That was... the king level smelting trial!

Chapter 716 – Warriors of the Ancient Phoenix Clan

After opening up the surrounding protective array formation of the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, Lin Ming walked into the valley where the mystic realm was locked in. Here were also the words that Mu Qianyu had left behind....

“Thundercrash Mountain, nameless cave, ten years’ time, the appointed meeting!”

Even though he had already reunited with Mu Qianyu, seeing these words still filled him with emotion.

After clearing up his feelings, Lin Ming followed the rules of the spell that he had learned from Mu Yuhuang, and then began to open up the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm a bit at a time.

The last time he had entered into the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, it had taken the collaborative efforts of Mu Yuhuang and Mu Tianguang. Now, Lin Ming was able to do so by himself.

Forming different array formation symbols with both hands, energy vibrated, accompanied by the distant sound of wind and thunder. The surrounding heaven and earth origin energy began to crazily surge, forming a twisting, black vortex in the air. This vortex constantly spun, finally turning into a black hole, wide enough for him to step into.

After stabilizing the entrance, Lin Ming stepped inside....

In an instant, Lin Ming's surroundings went pitch black before splashing with color again. Lin Ming had finally returned to the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm. In front of Lin Ming was endless red desert, interspersed with rocks. The ground was barren, and in between the rocks, flowing rivers of lava churned. The rivers glowed red from heat, and as the lava slowly flowed, massive bubbles burbled up from deep underground, making muffled sounds as they released the smell of suffocating sulfur.

But behind Lin Ming, there was an endless field of ice that extended to the horizons. Blizzards howled, and massive towers of ice spiked the ground, shimmering with a chilling radiance.

Lin Ming was familiar with the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm. The last time he had come to the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, these lands of fire and ice were considered a great trial. But to the current Lin Ming, these trials of fire and ice were nothing at all.

Time was of the essence. Lin Ming launched into his movement technique and rushed into the vast land of lava. This crimson land was filled with all sorts of lucky chances. But these lucky chances were not important to Lin Ming.

Flying with Golden Roc Shattering the Void, the scenery around him rapidly changed. Soon, Lin Ming arrived at the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple.

The Ancient Phoenix Great Temple was constructed from dark

red rock. It reached into the sky, and all around the great temple were various sorts of sculptures and totems. After the entrance opened, Lin Ming followed the familiar path in, coming to a grand jade platform. He placed the key in and then dripped his blood on it.

In the next moment, Lin Ming was enveloped in a warm light. Then, in a few breaths of time, he was transported to a completely closed chamber.

This chamber was filled with all sorts of murals and totems. The last time he had come here, Lin Ming had fought against a fuzzy red people, engaging in a fierce gauntlet of battle before finally meeting the Temple Spirit that guarded the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple.

But this time, as Lin Ming stepped in, the Temple Spirit immediately appeared.

Energy coalesced into the image of a face, like a translucent ghost. The ghost said, “Trial Challenger! I am the ‘Temple Spirit,’ and I protect this realm. We have met before....”

The Temple Spirit was part of the Stone Spirit Race and also the guardian of the Ancient Phoenix Great Hall. It had a lifespan as long as the rocks themselves.

“Sir Temple Spirit, I apologize for disturbing you from your slumber. The reason that I come to the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple is to participate in the king level smelting trial. Also, I only

have six months of time. If it's impossible to pass this trial in six months of time, then I would rather choose not to enter," Lin Ming calmly said as he looked at the Temple Spirit. Half a year was already a very tight timeline. His current strength was incomparable to when he completed the final general level smelting trial, but correspondingly, the king level smelting trial was also much harder. It would be at least several times more difficult than the general level trial.

It was hard to say whether or not he could complete it in half a year.

"King level smelting trial?" The Temple Spirit thought for a moment. "Trial Challenger, after you placed a drop of blood onto the jade platform, the result of your bloodline test was only at the peak of the general level..."

Lin Ming frowned. Before, after having passed through the final general level smelting trial, he had obtained a drop of Ancient Phoenix blood as a reward. However, one drop was simply too low. Whether it was the blood of the Ancient Phoenix or the blood of the True Dragon, both of them were extremely useful when Lin Ming's comprehensive combat strength was still weak. But now, after becoming that much stronger and reaching a level at which he could contend with a Life Destruction powerhouse, these different bloodlines were only able to offer him limited strength.

The reason was because the quantity was simply too low.

According to Demonshine's words, there were certain God Beast Clans within the Realm of the Gods where half their blood came

from a God Beast. For a genius to be birthed in such a family, their degree of talent was unimaginable.

“Sir Temple Spirit, I remember that the last time I entered the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple, besides the bloodline test, I also fought red figures in a chamber, finally earning the right to enter the general level smelting trial through my results there. How come that isn’t possible this time?”

Lin Ming was very self-aware of the power of his own bloodline. Even after obtaining the rewards from the general level smelting trial, they still weren’t able to compare with those that could enter the king level smelting trial. Thus, the only thing he could rely on was his own comprehensive talent in all other aspects .

Within the world of martial arts, this so-called comprehensive talent wasn’t one’s martial talent, but rather one’s integrated combat strength in comparison to their age. This was the standard method of evaluation of a genius.

In this aspect, Lin Ming had complete confidence in himself.

“That is the qualification test for the general level smelting trial. The qualification test for the king level smelting trial is much stricter....” The Temple Spirit said without the slightest hint of emotion.

“Much stricter? That also exists?” Lin Ming noted the subtext to the Temple Spirit’s words. He guessed that the Ancient Phoenix Clan also had extraordinary talents, however, they lacked

bloodline purity and richness. If they couldn't participate in the king level smelting trial just because of a deficiency in their bloodline then that would just be too unfair.

“Yes, but it is a life or death smelting trial; the mortality rate is extremely high. Failure means...death!”

Life or death smelting trial?

Lin Ming's eyes widened. He never thought that the screening requirements would be so harsh for the Ancient Phoenix Clan's Royal Family. Then again, after thinking of it some more, the animal kingdom was also the same. The Royal Family enjoyed far more privileges and resources, thus the test they faced would also be that much stricter. Once they failed, that would mean death.

This was all to ensure that the Royal Family remained absolutely formidable. Otherwise, they would just be the same as all the other clansmen. What right did they have to be part of the Royal Family?

With a light breath, Lin Ming unwaveringly said, “I can!”

The Temple Spirit glanced at Lin Ming. “Your bloodline concentration is far different compared to the true Royal Family. The difficulty of the smelting trial is also very high. Are you sure?”

“I am!” Lin Ming gripped his fists together. Even if it weren't because of Mu Qianyu, Lin Ming would still have returned to the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple to attempt the king level smelting

trial. The life of a martial artist was filled with difficult choices. If he had the chance to choose, he would always choose to blaze forward.

“Good, then it shall be as you wish!” The Temple Spirit’s figure gradually rose up as it finished speaking. It ascended 100 feet into the air, looking down at Lin Ming. “Trial Challenger, in this battle you must now face the heroic souls of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. They had once participated in the Ancient Phoenix Clan’s king level smelting trial; these are the most outstanding soldiers of the Royal Family. Now, through the recorded memories of the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple, they will be restored to their original form. If you defeat them, then you will obtain the qualifications to enter the true king level smelting trial. However, defeat...means death!”

As the Temple Spirit’s voice faded, Lin Ming saw that 100 feet in front of him a haze red phantom began to emerge from thin air.

Lin Ming’s mind went numb. Past soldiers of the Royal Family? He never imagined that he would actually fight with them in this manner.

Slowly extracting the long spear from his spatial ring, Lin Ming’s heart blazed with a brilliant fighting spirit.

He wondered, ‘Tens of thousands of years ago, or even hundreds of thousands of years ago, at a time when the history of the Sky Spill Continent is completely unknown, just what level did those martial artists reach? What sort of cultivation methods did they train in?’

He could discover them in this battle!

The red phantom slowly solidified, eventually turning into a tall man holding into a dark red spear. His eyebrows were straight, and he had a handsome appearance. His chin tapered to a point, giving him a somewhat beautiful flavor. At the same time, the man's presence was imposing, dominating, as if he were a model carved from jade.

“First opponent of the smelting trial qualification test. Ancient Phoenix Clan, Nuyan Family, Fourth Cousin of the Sixth Crown Prince, General of the Firecloud Battalion, Nuyan Yu!” Above the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple, a flat voice resounded, informing Lin Ming who his opponent had once been.

Nuyan Family? Firecloud Battalion General?

Listening to this, the Ancient Phoenix Clan seemed to be comprised of many families and factions, and the Nuyan Family was just one of these.

What sort of combat strength did the Firecloud Battalion reach? What cultivation were their soldiers?

Lin Ming lifted his spear, his heart inexplicably filled with yearning and desire for the Ancient Phoenix Clan from hundreds of thousands of years ago, wondering just what that army looked like. When he saw the murals and images within the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple, the normal soldiers had ridden Vermillion

Birds and Blue Luans. Not just that, but those Saint Beasts had been far more formidable than those from Divine Phoenix Island!

In such a war, how great and magnificent a scene it would have been!

After Nuyan Yu fully formed into reality, he held his long spear, pointing it straight at Lin Ming. The soldiers of the Ancient Phoenix Clan often had to ride Vermillion Birds and other Saint Beasts into battle, thus a majority of them used long polearms. For instance, the spear, halberd, and lance were all extremely common. This was completely different from the current Divine Phoenix Island that primarily used swords.

“Revolving Core cultivation?” Lin Ming discovered that Nuyan Yu’s cultivation was only at the Revolving Core realm. But, as to what boundary this Revolving Core realm actually reached, he found it difficult to guess. This was likely due to the differences in physique and training from those martial artists of the Sky Spill Continent.

“There is no one in the Sky Spill Continent who can give off such pressure with just a Revolving Core cultivation. I wonder just how old this Nuyan Yu was before he left behind this recorded phantom. If he was just in his twenties, then that would truly be terrifying!” Lin Ming’s expression turned solemn, his eyes filling with fighting spirit. Ever since he had broken through to the Revolving Core, this was the first time he had stood opposite another heroic young elite who was comparable to him.

Swish!

Without a word, Nuyan Yu thrust his spear at Lin Ming!

All of the fire origin energy of the world was stirred up by this spear, forming a phantom Ancient Phoenix that flapped its wings, shooting towards Lin Ming!

The phantom hadn't arrived, but a sweltering heat wave had already reached him!

“Come on!”

Lin Ming's eyes erupted with a fierce fighting spirit. Against such an enemy, he didn't have any thoughts of holding back. From the very start he had opened the Heretical God Force, as well activating the Death God force field and Asura force field!

Chasing Sun!

A spear thrust out. This spear contained the Concept of Fire.

This was a collision of Concepts. Lin Ming wanted to see just how far off his own Concept of Fire was compared to those young elites of the Ancient Phoenix Clan.

Bang!

Nuyan Yu's Ancient Phoenix phantom was pierced through by

Lin Ming's spear, but Lin Ming's spear light was also melted away by those feverish flames.

Both strikes disappeared into thin air, evenly matched!

Lin Ming sucked in a deep breath. He knew that just in terms of Concepts he had already lost. The only reason he had been able to block that strike just now was because his battle spirit had been infused into his attack.

Chapter 717 – Qualify

In the skies above the battlefield, the Temple Spirit indifferently gazed on at everything happening beneath him. After all, the Temple Spirit was an existence that lacked all normal human sentiment. It was not surprised nor did it exclaim aloud. It only felt it unusual that Lin Ming, whose cultivation was at the middle Revolving Core realm, was able to form a bronze-level elementary stage battle spirit, infinitely close to reaching small success.

‘Perhaps he really might have the qualifications to enter the true king level smelting trial...’

As the Temple Spirit thought this, it blankly stared on.

Whether Lin Ming earned the qualifications or died, the Temple Spirit would never show regret or joy. It simply held the attitude of a spectator, bearing witness to all.

Bang!

On the battlefield, Nuyan Yu and Lin Ming fiercely collided. Nuyan Yu was tossed back hundreds of feet, his body shaking as if the energy that formed him was about to dissipate at any second.

“I see. That attack just now really consumed a great deal of energy.” Lin Ming discovered that the phantom reproduction of Nuyan Yu had an extremely limited amount of energy. Every bit less was energy that the phantom would never recover. In just a few intense collisions, half of Nuyan Yu’s figure already vanished.

Lin Ming twirled his long spear, stepping atop Golden Roc Shattering the Void as he instantly appeared in front of Nuyan Yu.

A spear shot out, containing the Concept of Thunderfire.

Penetrating Rainbow!

Kacha!

The energy-formed spear in Nuyan Yu's hand was directly cut in half, and a chunk of his arm was ripped off by Lin Ming's attack, turning into sparkling starlight that vanished.

After losing a part of his arm, Nuyan Yu was no longer able to withstand Lin Ming. Lin Ming's spear thrust through his throat, and Nuyan Yu vanished in a blaze of radiant light.

"I won."

Lin Ming took several deep gulps, catching his breath as he stirred the Black Hole Revolving Core in his dantian to absorb the rich heaven and earth origin energy around him.

That Nuyan Yu just now had left a deep impression on Lin Ming. If it weren't for the fact that the phantom copy had a limited amount of energy, if the fight had continued, Lin Ming would have had to pay a heavy price even if he won.

“The extraordinary heroic elites of the Ancient Phoenix Clan are truly formidable, especially in their understanding of Concepts. In that aspect alone, I am far inferior to them.” Lin Ming shook his head. His perception wasn’t bad, but as his cultivation and strength constantly improved, he began to find that his perception was becoming a weakness of his.

After Nuyan Yu’s phantom dissipated, a new phantom quickly coalesced in front of Lin Ming.

The phantom held a long war lance. Flaming red hair ran down his shoulders and a sharp light shined in his eyes. With a single glance, he could see that hundreds of thousands of years ago, this man was once a dragon amongst humans.

“The second opponent of the smelting trial qualification test. Ancient Phoenix Clan, Nuyan Family, Second Son of the Sixth Prince, Vanguard General Nuyan Huo!”

This Nuyan Huo appeared to be around 20-30 years of age. As for exactly how old he was, it was difficult to estimate. In the Ancient Phoenix Clan’s king level smelting trial qualifier, matches were arranged according to the trial challenger’s age. The older the challenger, the stronger the opponents they had to face.

Nuyan Huo lifted his left hand, and with a sizzling spark, flames combusted, coalescing into a fire shield. On Nuyan Huo’s body, flames lingered on his skin. After several breaths of time, these little flames turned into countless small scales that covered him,

forming a complete set of armor. With this, Nuyan Huo's entire body was protected.

These scales burned a deep red. As they covered his body, they seemed like completely separate entities. On top of the scales were even mystical runes. These were naturally formed textures after the fires solidified into material form.

“Flame shield, flame armor?”

Lin Ming's pupil's shrank. This was a technique that was recorded within the “Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicles.”

Within the “Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle,” there were recorded methods on how to form such objects as chains out of fire. Lin Ming had also casually learnt these skills, but because of the limits in the cultivation method and the strength and durability of the flame formed, chains were inadequate. As Lin Ming broke through to the Houtian realm and Xiantian realm, he slowly stopped using these minor techniques.

But now, as Lin Ming saw the flame scales and flame shield on Nuyan Huo's body, he could clearly feel the energy there that was compressed to an extremely terrifying degree. It was absolutely startling!

Was this a high level application of the Concept of Fire?

Lin Ming took a deep breath. In these past few years, he had invested the majority of his time and energy into understanding and polishing the Concept of Space. As for the Concept of Fire and the Concept of Thunder, he had temporarily put those on hold.

Lin Ming was well aware that as a martial artist reached a higher boundary the more important it became to utilize things such as battle spirits, Laws, and their corresponding Concepts, abilities that one comprehended from touching upon the source of principles. Only the worst of all martial artists would depend on just their cultivation to fight.

The more Concepts one comprehended, the more combat strength and flexibility one would have. Although it was possible to bite off more than one could chew, when one reached the Divine Sea boundary and above, it was possible to have thousands upon thousands of years of life. This was more than enough time to understand these things. Thus, it was always a good idea to lay down an early foundation.

Woosh!

Nuyan Huo's lance thrust out and all of the surrounding fire origin energy was thrown in turmoil, completely overwhelming as it came enveloping down on Lin Ming. Against such a lance attack, Lin Ming didn't counterattack first. Instead, he touched his mind upon the Heretical God Force, relying on his powerful soul force and perception to analyze the mysteries behind Nuyan Huo's attack.

Chasing Sun!

When Lin Ming was covered in fire, he finally made his counterattack.

Peng!

Flames showered. Lin Ming flew out of the explosion, his hair charred and clothes smoking. In that quick exchange of moves, even though Lin Ming's spear strike contained his battle spirit, it still wasn't enough to make up for the disparity.

Fortunately, Lin Ming wasn't injured thanks to his astounding defensive ability. Even so, some of the power of fire crept into his meridians, recklessly dashing about before the suppressive force of the Heretical God Seed came crashing down upon it. But the power of this flame wisp was much harder and stubborn than Lin Ming had imagined. Even with the Heretical God Force tamping it down, it was still extremely violent and wild. It would take a short period of time before it was fully suppressed.

This was the first time that the Heretical God Seed had encountered such a situation. Lin Ming certainly didn't think that the Heretical God Force arcane skill was insufficient in grade, but rather that his own realm was lacking. Compared to Nuyan Huo, his comprehension in Concepts was far too poor.

"Trying to steal a glance at the Concept of Fire in the midst of a fight?" In the sky over the battlefield, the Temple Spirit indifferently watched everything happening below it. "The king level smelting trial qualifier is extremely difficult. It is already a

life or death battle, so you had better be careful. Don't lose your life just for a chance of comprehending something beyond you."

In the Temple Spirit's opinion, if Lin Ming concentrated too much on comprehending certain things in this battle, then he wouldn't be able to fight with his full strength, thus having a situation just now where he had lost. In a battle between masters, any sort of hesitation like this was dangerous.

"I appreciate the advice." Lin Ming never intended to change his plans to begin. If he wanted to gain insights into this Concept during battle, it would naturally consume a great deal more energy; he might even be injured. However, he had faith in his own endurance and defensive ability. If the situation took a turn for the worse, it wouldn't be too late to fully commit to the battle.

Bang bang bang!

With every exchange of moves, Lin Ming constantly gained insight from Nuyan Huo's Concept of Fire. Within his body, the Heretical God Seed began to absorb more and more power of fire. Under the confines of the Heretical God Force, this power of fire formed a crimson sphere that revolved near the Heretical God Seed together with the Heretical God Flame essence. However, it was impossible for the Heretical God Flame Essence to absorb this power simply because the difference in level was too high.

Although Nuyan Huo seemed as if he held the complete advantage, there was still a limited amount of energy within his body. After ten moves, his voice began to fade away.

After five more moves, Lin Ming's spear cut off Nuyan Huo's arm.

A section of flame armor and the flame shield fell into Lin Ming's hands. Gently feeling the shield with his fingers, Lin Ming sensed the traces of energy contained within. In this shield, it seemed as if the fire origin energy had a mind of its own. It was a structure of energy formed with countless tiny runes. Regardless of what direction an attack came from, this structure would be able to disperse the impact of the strike, ultimately absorbing the remnants of that attack with the flame energy.

“This Flame Law is truly amazing!”

Nuyan Huo's attack came once again. Lin Ming was no longer able to divide his attention in battle to study the subtle structures within this shield. With a counterattack of his spear, Nuyan Huo's phantom was killed, his body scattering into energy. The flame shield in Lin Ming's hand also vanished in a burst of fire, making him feel extremely regretful.

After Nuyan Huo, new matches appeared, all from the Nuyan Family. Lin Ming began to suspect that only the Ancient Phoenix Clan members from the Sky Spill Continent were surnamed Nuyan. Perhaps the Ancient Phoenix Clan of the Sky Spill Continent was only a tiny branch of the Ancient Phoenix Clan from the Realm of the Gods.

The battles became increasingly intense. Lin Ming was already

unable to discreetly study the Concept of Fire in battle, otherwise he wouldn't be able to continue.

After being swept up in the aftermath of his opponent's flames, Lin Ming thrust out his spear at this fifth opponent, killing him. But then, two crimson phantom images appeared in front of him.

Nuyan Family Left Guard General, Nuyan Dalei.

Nuyan Family Right Guard General, Nuyan Xun.

One against two!

Lin Ming's expression became solemn. Although his opponents had limited energy, having to face continuous fights in an ever-changing battle was still very hard on the trial challenger's energy consumption. If it weren't for the Gate of Healing supporting Lin Ming, he absolutely couldn't have made it to this stage.

"The Ancient Phoenix Clan's king level smelting trial is truly strict in its requirements. This is also only the Ancient Phoenix Clan's Nuyan Family. I wonder what would happen if it were different races or clans?" Lin Ming was well aware that there was no limit in this universe; there was always a higher peak. This was common sense. With his current talent, he far exceeded anyone in the ancient or current times of the Sky Spill Continent and Holy Demon Continent. But, in Demonshine's words, there were three thousand boundless worlds, meaning that there were at least another billion worlds out there, all like the Sky Spill Continent. Just being able to dominate a world like that didn't mean much at

all.

Lin Ming no longer bothered to gain insights into the Concept of Fire; he completely concentrated on this battle as he preserved his energy. Lin Ming's strongest strength lay in his endurance. Even if he had to fight multiple enemies, it would still be difficult to wear him down. In addition, he also had an astounding physical defense capability. And with the support of the Heretical God Seed, Lin Ming held a completely disparate advantage when it came to defending against fire energy.

Like this, Lin Ming continued fighting.

Sixth match...

Seventh match...

Eighth match...

When the tenth match came, Lin Ming's opponent was a minor prince of the Ancient Phoenix Clan.

This prince was several times stronger than his previous opponents. The prince wielded a golden halberd, and his control of fire was dizzying in its wonder.

From the very start Lin Ming had fallen into the inferior position. After continuous collisions, he forcefully relied on the Heretical God Seed to control and defend against the flames. After

ten moves, the prince's energy gradually weakened, and then he was killed by Lin Ming.

After defeating his tenth opponent, Lin Ming supported himself on the ground with his spear, his entire face dripping wet with sweat. His clothes were nearly burnt off, and his body was covered with minor burns and spear wounds. At this moment, he had already used up over half of his true essence.

The Temple Spirit came floating down from the air. It calmly said, "Trial Challenger, congratulations on obtaining the qualifications to enter the king level smelting trial. Now, follow me...."

Chapter 718 – A Shocking Trial Ground

“I’ve finally passed.” Lin Ming let out a breath of relief. That test had not been easy at all. When Lin Ming had passed the general level smelting trial, he had been young, thus the enemies he faced were correspondingly weaker. Even so, it had cost Lin Ming a massive amount of time to pass it, and if he hadn’t brought enough Vermillion Bird blood essence with him, then it might have been nearly impossible to pass the smelting trial in any reasonable period of time.

But now, Lin Ming’s age and cultivation had risen. Facing the king level smelting trial qualifier, it hadn’t been as difficult to pass. This proved that the rate Lin Ming grew had exceeded the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple’s expectations of someone from the royal line.

“Sir Temple Spirit, I have a question I would like to ask you. Those several successors and princes I fought, just how old were they?”

This was the question that Lin Ming most wanted to ask. He desired to know how his talent compared to those geniuses of the Ancient Phoenix Clan and just what degree the disparity between them was.

The Temple Spirit said, “Trial Challenger, your skeletal age is at 21 years. The difficult of your corresponding test should also be at the 21st rank. However, because your bloodline density is lacking, the true difficulty of your test was somewhat higher. Your matches were all 24 or 25 years old. They were all outstanding heroic elites

of the Ancient Phoenix Clan's Royal Family. However, when their phantoms faced you, their energy and cultivation were also under heavy suppression; they were in no way at their peak condition. Thus, it is impossible to assess your talent in comparison to theirs.

“I understand.”

Lin Ming wasn't too surprised by this. In the Ancient Phoenix Clan, their resources and talents were far from what the Sky Spill Continent could compare with. For instance, the Nirvana Dragon Root was a rare and precious heavenly treasure that all Life Destruction masters of the Sky Spill Continent would go stark mad for. However, thinking about it some more, that Nirvana Dragon Root was in truth some unwanted medicinal herb kept in the Demon God Imperial Palace's medicine garden by the Demon Emperor before he ascended into the Realm of the Gods. Although it's value had surged because of the tens of thousands of years that had passed, when it was truly contrasted to the great sects within the Realm of the Gods with incomparably vast legacies, it wasn't even worth mentioning.

There might be some half God Beast bloodline genius out there, using medicines and pills daily with a value that far surpassed the Nirvana Dragon Root. What they trained in were high-level Realm of the God's cultivation methods that were in no way inferior to Lin Ming's, and they would even have the guidance of old beings from the Realm of the Gods whose cultivation far surpassed that of the Divine Sea's. Lin Ming didn't find it strange that there would be many such individuals whose own comprehensive talent even exceeded his own.

Destiny was also a part of one's talent. For a martial artist to be born in a great sect of the Realm of the Gods, or perhaps even a Holy Land, that too was a part of their destiny.

But for Lin Ming, although he originated from the lowliest of mortal backgrounds in one of the three thousand boundless worlds, simply one of a trillion trillion ants scurrying about, he still didn't believe that his destiny was any less than that of an outstanding young elite from a Realm of the Gods Holy Land.

This was because...he had the Magic Cube.

Although the current Lin Ming hadn't been able to perceive the secrets of the Magic Cube, he had a faint feeling that the Magic Cube might be one of the greatest treasures within the entire universe. As he grew stronger in the future, he would be able to unlock more and more of the Magic Cube's powers, bringing him that much closer to the peak of all martial arts.

"Trial Challenger, we are here..." As the Temple Spirit spoke, the space around Lin Ming began to suddenly twist. A slight dizzying vertigo overcame him, and in the next moment he was sent up to a broad platform.

This platform was shaped like a massive circle, at least 10 miles in diameter. On its surface, there were a variety of mysterious, ancient runes engraved within; these were clearly array symbols.

However, what surprised Lin Ming was that he hadn't seen a good number of these array symbols before. Lin Ming believed that

he was skilled in understanding ancient array formations, but facing the patterns and marks on this platform, nearly everything here was completely unknown, making him feel a bit helpless.

Was this an array formation laid down by the Ancient Phoenix Clan?

“Sir Temple Spirit, are these the grounds for the king level smelting trial?” Lin Ming looked at the entire round platform. This platform emitted a simple, vast energy; it was startling. In addition to these mysterious, ancient runes, Lin Ming wouldn’t be surprised if it was something similar to the Seven Profound Valleys’ Ten Thousand Killing Array.

Of course, this Ancient Phoenix Great Temple’s array formation was like the difference between heaven and earth compared to that of the Seven Profound Valleys.

However, the Temple Spirit shook its head and said, “This is not the site of the king level smelting trial. Rather, it is the transmission altar that leads to the king level smelting trial....”

The Temple Spirit’s words were unhurried without any hint of emotion behind them. But as Lin Ming heard them, he was completely shocked!

What!?

This was only a transmission array!?

A ten-mile-wide transmission array covered in countless mystic runes!

Heavens! Where would such a transmission array lead to!?

In the broken world of the Demon God Imperial Palace, Lin Ming had seen a massive, ancient transmission array that was hundreds of feet high with 108 grooves for true essence stones. With all sorts of array symbols covering it, it had been a large-scale array formation.

That was the greatest transmission array Lin Ming had seen to date. But now, compared to this transmission array around him. It was absolutely overshadowed like an ant to an elephant.

This array formation was ten miles wide! Spreading out his perception, Lin Ming discovered dozens of fist-sized grooves around him. As for the transmission altar itself, that was a thousand feet high!

The entire altar seemed carved from burning red jade. Lin Ming had never seen this jade-like material but he could feel the vibrant energy rolling off from it.

This sort of transmission array...

Lin Ming glanced at the Temple Spirit. If the Demon God Imperial Palace's transmission array could send someone billions

of miles away, then this transmission array could send someone trillions or even tens or hundreds of trillions of miles afar!

“Sir Temple Spirit, just where does this transmission array go to? If I can’t complete the smelting trial in half a year, I would rather not enter,” Lin Ming uneasily asked. If he went so far away, returning probably wouldn’t be easy.

“Trial Challenger, I cannot guarantee when you will complete the smelting trial. The king level smelting trial is considered one of the core cultivation resources of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, and is divided into several stages. You can only continue to the later stages if you complete the first stage of the smelting trial. Once you finish the first stage of the smelting trial, you may also return. But, as for how long it will take you, I cannot tell.”

“What’s the fastest time that a martial artist of the Ancient Phoenix Clan completed the trial?” Lin Ming quickly asked.

“The fastest was...72 days!”

As the Temple Spirit spoke this number, even though its nature was that of indifference, there was still a trace of respect and reverence in its tone. 72 days was a terrifying number.

“72 days...I understand.” Since there were people that could complete the trial in 72 days, then Lin Ming was confident that even if he couldn’t match that number, three months also wouldn’t be a problem.

The Temple Spirit shook its head and said, “Trial Challenger, 72 days for completion of the trial is not an Ancient Phoenix Clan Prince from my Nuyan Family. That individual had a perfect Phoenix Clan bloodline. That is, half of his bloodline came from humanity and the other half came from a Phoenix. His perception, talent, none of that can be measured with common sense. Perhaps you might not even have the qualifications to pass the very first stage of the smelting trial in 72 days.”

Perfect Phoenix Clan bloodline?

Lin Ming sucked in a deep breath. From the very first time he had stepped onto the road of martial arts, taking each step by step until he reached where he presently was, he was now finally able to approach those peak talents from the Realm of the Gods.

Now, he would finally traverse the same path that the heroic young elites of the Realm of the Gods once tread, climbing towards the true peak of martial arts!

Everything had to restart from zero. The road was now underneath his feet!

Lin Ming’s entire body burned with a brilliant fighting spirit. If he didn’t come into contact with the Realm of the Gods, then he would never see where the peak of all martial arts lay!

“I don’t need to finish in 72 days. As long as I can pass within half a year—that’s more than enough! Beam me up!”

“Good! It shall be as you wish.”

As the Temple Spirit finished speaking, from above the skies of the massive altar, hundreds of fist-sized crystals slowly fell down, fitting themselves into the grooves of the altar.

Lin Ming had never seen these red energy stones before. But from the energy fluctuations, he could sense that these crystals were incomparable to true essence stones or Blood Demon Crystals.

This was also within reason. In order to mobilize such a terrifyingly large transmission array, how could ordinary energy stones possibly be enough?

These red crystals were absolutely priceless. If just the consumption to transmit a young elite was so high, then the training resources they received could be imagined.

No wonder the Ancient Phoenix Clan held such strict requirements to qualify for the king level smelting trial. In order to train a single member of the Royal Family, this required a massive amount of resources. Even with Lin Ming's talent, he still hadn't obtained the qualifications easily.

Bang!

The red crystals erupted with energy. The entire transmission altar suddenly shook as all of the array symbols upon it lit up in dazzling succession!

A beam of fiery-red light shot out from the altar, straight into the skies. As Lin Ming stood on the transmission array, he felt an endless and terrifying pressure fall over him with overwhelming force, suppressing him to a nearly unbearable degree.

Heavenly Demon force field—open!

Lin Ming simultaneously released the Death God and Asura force fields. With their support, Lin Ming was just barely able to withstand this immense pressure.

This secretly shocked Lin Ming. “This transmission is truly extraordinary. If a normal Xiantian martial artist were to stand here, they would explode from the pressure!”

Bang!

The transmission array suddenly trembled. More and more red energy surged forth, covering the entire altar.

In the next moment, Lin Ming felt his body suddenly accelerate in a dizzying motion as the world spun around him. This acceleration was so sudden and fast that Lin Ming felt as though he would barf out his organs. Rays of red light wrapped around Lin Ming, the void shattered, and he was tossed into this incomparably chaotic space flow!

Having experienced this scene previously, Lin Ming’s eyes lit up.

This was also an opportune time for him to further hone his Concepts of Space and Time!

The chaotic space flow that Lin Ming faced this time were even more violent and terrifying than before. But Lin Ming's strength had greatly increased from the past, and his understanding of the Concept of Space had reached a very deep degree. Even if he couldn't directly withstand the violent space flows, he still had ways to avoid it, ensuring that he would be safe.

After soaring through this space flow for an unknown period of time, even someone with Lin Ming's endurance consumed 70-80% of his true essence. Finally, he felt his body shake as he was kicked out from the space channel!

Then, Lin Ming was able to clearly gaze at the scene before him. This was the true king level smelting trial!

Lin Ming was thoroughly shocked. Prior to this, he had imagined many times just what the king level smelting trial would be like. Perhaps it was similar to the Ten Thousand Killing Array, or the King's Cage, or maybe even the Road of Emperor, but he never thought it would be like this.....

This was actually a city! A city filled with people!

Chapter 719 – Timeworn Phoenix City

Right in front of Lin Ming was an incomparably vast and deep valley. Lin Ming stood right on the top of a cliff hundreds of thousands of feet high. The cliff walls were smooth like polished mirrors. If one didn't have the ability to fly, then perhaps even a Revolving Core martial artist would be unable to climb this.

Looking down from the top of the cliff, he saw an endless mist of hazy clouds, extending off into the distant horizon for thousands of miles. But, within this fog, he could make out several mountains that were hundreds of thousands of feet high, towering into the heavens as if they were pillars supporting the vault of the world.

A magnificent, crimson castle city was nestled within these mountains. Its walls were several hundred feet high, grand and majestic, and above the city massive flaming birds shuttled back and forth. On top of these flaming birds rode riders wearing scarlet sets of armor with lances in their hands.

Besides these fiery birds, there was a massive spirit boat being ferried forwards by ten Golden Crows, their bodies wreathed in flames. Each of these Golden Crows were much larger than the Vermillion Birds of Divine Phoenix Island, their twin wings each extended 200 feet out and their backs wide enough to fit 10 people standing side by side.

At this time, this massive spirit boat headed forwards into that giant, crimson castle city. As Lin Ming stood 100 miles outside, he could clearly hear the resounding cry of phoenixes, a melodious and valiant song that echoed endlessly between the heavens and

earth.

“What a great divine city!”

Lin Ming sucked in a deep breath. Although he already knew that outside of the Sky Spill Continent there was the three thousand boundless worlds as well as the even greater and more illusory, unattainable Realm of the Gods, knowing was one matter; seeing with his own eyes was another altogether.

This scene was simply staggeringly breathtaking; it was only inferior to the phantom of the God Beast he had seen in the Eternal Demon Abyss.

As Lin Ming turned around, he saw that the Temple Spirit was following behind him, its form rippling like a water mark. “Trial Challenger, this is Timeworn Phoenix City. It is my Nuyan Family’s king level smelting trial site. You may enter.”

“Timeworn Phoenix City....Nuyan Family...”

Lin Ming’s eyebrows arched upwards. He asked the Temple Spirit, “Sir Temple Spirit, the Nuyan Family is only part of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. So would that mean that the other trial challengers of other clans and families are also converged within Timeworn Phoenix City?”

The Temple Spirit replied, “Yes.”

So it was true.... Lin Ming sucked in a deep breath of cold air. If he wasn't wrong, then the Sky Spill Continent's Ancient Phoenix Clan only comprised the Nuyan Family branch. But, within the Realm of the Gods, there was the much greater true Ancient Phoenix Clan. There was even a possibility that the Ancient Phoenix Clan was a Holy Land-rank influence within the Realm of the Gods!

"Come, I shall lead you into the city," the Temple Spirit said. Then, a blurry light wrapped around Lin Ming and they flew together towards that colossal city.

After half an incense stick of time, Lin Ming arrived at the great castle city. As he reached the city gates, he saw that they were 1000 feet high, and at the very top there were three massive golden words emblazoned on a huge signboard: Timeworn Phoenix City!

These three words emanated an unbelievably inexhaustible and vigorous aura; just looking at it made his mind blur. Even though Lin Ming was confident in the firmness of his own willpower and mind, he still didn't dare stare for too long.

"This sign..."

The Temple Spirit said, "The above words on that signboard were personally written by the Third Patriarch of the Ancient Phoenix Clan; within it is contained the root Laws of all fire-attribute energies. Normally, if a martial artist looks at it they will feel dazed. Even those who have formed a battle spirit are no exception."

“I see....” Lin Ming was startled. It wasn’t said which family clan this Ancient Phoenix Clan Third Patriarch came from. It was possible that he was the Third Patriarch of the Ancient Phoenix Clan from the Realm of the Gods. It was hard to imagine just what boundary such a person would have reached.

“Come, let us enter,” the Temple Spirit said before slowly floating forward.

The great road leading to Timeworn Phoenix City was over a mile wide. Along the way, there were a number of martial artists sporadically scattered about, all of them wearing red. In his black clothes, Lin Ming stuck out like a sore thumb.

As Lin Ming sensed the cultivation of those young heroic elites he saw along the way, he was secretly surprised. Nearly all of them were at Revolving Core or even at Life Destruction. There were several who were at the Xiantian realm, but they were obviously under 20 years of age. They didn’t break through to the Xiantian realm any later than Lin Ming.

As Lin Ming arrived at the entrance to Timeworn Phoenix City, a soldier dressed in fiery armor stopped him. “Identify yourselves! Name and origin!”

At this time, the Temple Spirit fluttered down beside Lin Ming. It said without feeling, “Ancient Phoenix Clan, Nuyan Family Protector from Sky Spill Continent. The trial challenger’s name is Nuyan Ming.”

Nuyan Ming?

Lin Ming was startled before relaxing. He was a disciple of Divine Phoenix Island and he had also obtained the inheritance of a single blood drop of the Ancient Phoenix from the Ancient Phoenix Great Temple. He could at least be considered an honorary Nuyan Family member.

“Nuyan Family?” The city gate guardsman showed a thoughtful expression. He took out a jade slip, glanced at it, and then said with some surprise and consternation, “The Nuyan Family has not sent any fellow clansmen to the Royal Family smelting trial for 150,000 years!”

“Yes!” the Temple Spirit replied. Then, a simple token emerged out of thin air in front of it. The front of the token had the design of a phoenix in nirvana, and the back of the token and a single word written in the Realm of the God’s language—Nuyan.

The city gate guardsman looked at Lin Ming strangely. He then took the token and nodded, “You truly are of the Nuyan Family line. You may enter.”

Lin Ming stepped into Timeworn Phoenix City with the Temple Spirit. As Lin Ming formally entered the city, he felt a great vague pressure come pressing down on him. This caused all of the true essence within his body to immediately weaken by at least 20%.

Looking up in the sky, he could see countless red clouds surging

in the heavens, constantly forming a variety of mystical patterns that seemed as if they contained the endless profound principles of the universe.

“The fire origin energy here is...too rich, too pure!” Lin Ming gasped. He felt that what he breathed in was not air but the purest and most primal of fire origin energies!

This fire origin energy perhaps shouldn't be described with the word “rich.” Rather, it was power that was closest to the Law of Fire!

“If I train here, it can't even be described as twice the result with half the effort....” Lin Ming sighed with emotion. The great sects and Holy Lands of the Realm of the Gods were truly flush with resources, but as to what degree it was, it was hard to consider with just his imagination. Now, seeing it with his own eyes, he could only sigh for the disparity that existed between the mortal world and the Realm of the Gods!

In Timeworn Phoenix City, even if one didn't train, one would always be undergoing a baptism of fire energy, making the energy within their dantian even purer! If one supplemented this with cultivation, the ease of perceiving the Law of Fire could be imagined.

Especially for the people here; they all had a formidable bloodline power. Their own compatibilities with the Law of Fire were extremely high to begin with!

“Follow me, I shall bring you to the Timeworn Phoenix City Protector. He will guide you to the first stage of the Royal Family smelting trial.”

Lin Ming followed the Temple Spirit to the Temple of Protectors. Along the way, they passed by many red-clothed young men and women. If any one of these people were placed in the Sky Spill Continent, then they would be existences that Duanmu Qun, Feng Shen, and Lan Xin wouldn't be able to compare with by far.

“These people all come from the Realm of the Gods?” Lin Ming asked.

“No....” The Temple Spirit shook its head. “Most of these people come from similar mortal worlds like the Sky Spill Continent. Only a small portion of them come from the Realm of the Gods.

“The Realm of the Gods is an incomparably broad land. But there are even more people within it. When someone decides to practice martial arts, their lifespan will become longer, and the number of descendants they leave behind will swell in number. After a long time, even the near unlimited resources of the Realm of the Gods would find it hard to support such a great number of people. At times, there will be some branch families of certain sects and clans that will pass through space cracks, entering into the lower mortal realm where they settle down. The Ancient Phoenix Clan within the Sky Spill Continent was in this situation.”

As the Temple Spirit spoke, Lin Ming was suddenly enlightened. So that's how it was!

Humanity's ability to multiply was truly terrifying. If a martial artist lived for 10,000 years, they could have dozens or even hundreds of children. These children would have their own children, and then the rate of population would increase exponentially. Quickly, a sect's spiritual land would not be able to bear this. At that point, it would be a wise choice for a branch of that sect to settle down in the world of mortals.

"So, the Sky Spill Continent Ancient Phoenix Clan's Nuyan Family was also the same?" Lin Ming had never understood why various ancient ruins from the Realm of the Gods had appeared within the Sky Spill Continent. For instance, the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, Road of Emperor, Eternal Demon Abyss, or even the various array formations of the Demon God Imperial palace, all of them came from the Realm of the Gods.

"Yes! Once upon a time, the Sky Spill Continent also had a brilliant and storied past. Although it was not comparable to the Realm of the Gods, it still had its moments of magnificence...." As the Temple Spirit spoke to here, it seemed reluctant to keep talking. Lin Ming also didn't want to push the subject. He had a faint feeling that 100,000 years ago, a time at which the history of the Sky Spill Continent had been wiped out, it also had something to do with the fall from brilliance that the Temple Spirit had implied in its words.

Lin Ming had long thought something was strange. Although ancient texts could last thousands of years at most, the large sects should have methods to preserve their history. For instance, specially crafted jade slips. It shouldn't have been possible for everything that happened 100,000 years ago to suddenly vanish.

‘I wonder what the matter with the Eternal Demon Abyss is. There are obviously life forms from the Realm of the Gods that reside there. Above the Eternal Demon Abyss there are also the Road of Emperor, King’s Cage, and the 12 Skysplit Towers; all of that should have been built by those existences within the Eternal Demon Abyss. But why did they do that and why had they retreated to the Eternal Demon Abyss and never left? Is this related to the fall from glory that happened 100,000 years ago?’

Lin Ming remembered that tens of thousands of years ago, there was a massive, beastly claw that emerged from the Eternal Demon Abyss, instantly killing 12 Emperor-level powerhouses. He also remembered that ancient great beast he had seen in the 1000-mile forbidden zone; its body had spanned for thousands of miles. And there was even that goddess in her tomb sleeping, unblemished and undisturbed for all those years. Without a doubt, these were not mysteries that should exist in the Sky Spill Continent or Holy Demon Continent.

What kind of secret was there in the Eternal Demon Abyss? Lin Ming felt that he had just glimpsed the very tip of the iceberg. Well, at least he now knew generally how the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm and Eternal Demon Abyss had come about.

“We’re here. This is the Hall of Protectors. Trial Challenger, I shall wait for you here until you have completed the first stage of the trial or are eliminated. Perhaps you might even die....” The Temple Spirit finally stopped at a red-domed building that was hundreds of feet high. On the very top of the dome, there was a massive statue of a phoenix, its wings spread out in flight as if it were living creature trapped there in time.

“You may enter.”

“Thank you, Sir Temple Spirit.” Lin Ming took a deep breath and walked into the flame-hued Hall of Protectors. In the deserted corridors, his footsteps echoed loudly.

Chapter 720 – Ancient Phoenix Totem

Within the Temple of Protectors, Lin Ming saw several red-clothed martial artists milling around in the main hall. The majority of them were humans, but there were also some Fey and other races. They all had different surnames and origins, yet, they all shared a single common ground, and that was that they all had the bloodline of the Ancient Phoenix.

“Are you new?” As Lin Ming stepped in, a red-clothed martial artist walked up to greet him, speaking with the common language of the Realm of the Gods, “Where are you from?”

“Sky Spill Continent, Nuyan Family’s Nuyan Ming.” Lin Ming replied.

“Sky Spill Continent? So you’re also from the world of mortals. Me too! Hahaha, let me introduce myself, I am from the Yellowright Family, Yellowright Min.” The diminutive red-clothed martial artist smiled with a sense of warmth and camaraderie when he heard Lin Ming was also from a mortal world.

Lin Ming discovered that on Yellowright Min’s chest, there was a badge there with the word ‘Yellowright’ written on it, surrounded by burning flames.

Within the hall, everyone else had badges on their chest too, labeling and displaying their respective families and clans. But, near the center of the hall, there was a group of six young martial artists that seemed slightly different from the others.

They clustered into an isolated group, completely ignoring the other martial artists around them.

“Heh, those six fellows are from the Realm of the Gods.” Yellowright Min noticed where Lin Ming’s eyes were and he curled his lips in disgust. He said with a true essence sound transmission, “Those Realm of the Gods fellows all have an ingrained sense of superiority so they stay in their little clique and don’t bother conversing with the rest of us. They think that their status compared to ours is the same as nobles compared to commoners!”

Yellowright Min’s voice held an obvious hint of irony as if he viewed these six people with a great deal of disdain.

“Realm of the Gods?” Lin Ming’s eyes widened.

“Coming from the Realm of the Gods doesn’t mean all that much.” Yellowright Min shook his head. “This Timeworn Phoenix City is also located in the lower realms. In the Realm of the Gods, there are special Royal Family smelting trial sites. If they were truly the top talents of the Phoenix Clan, then there’s no way they would have come here!”

“Oh?” Lin Ming was startled, “So you’re saying that this Timeworn Phoenix City is not the Ancient Phoenix Clan’s best trial area? I heard that Timeworn Phoenix City’s signboard was personally written by the Third Patriarch of the Ancient Phoenix Clan?”

“Well, yes, that’s right, but that’s because the Third Patriarch also came from the lower realms and he completed his Royal Family smelting trial at Timeworn Phoenix City. The most outstanding heroic youths of our lower worlds of mortals aren’t necessarily much worse than those from the Realm of the Gods. Come, let me introduce you to the others.”

As Yellowright Min spoke, he led Lin Ming around to meet some of the other martial artists from the mortal world. “This is Man Ka, he’s from the Kobe Star, and this is Wu Yuan, he’s from the Sky Cicada Continent...”

The few people that Yellowright Min introduced generally nodded coolly at Lin Ming. All of these individuals were the most favored children of heaven in their own worlds; it wasn’t strange for them to be prideful. Rather, it was Yellowright Min whose jovial nature was different from everyone else.

Lin Ming didn’t mind. He secretly noted down everyone’s age and cultivation. Nearly everyone here was under 25 years old, and they all had a cultivation around the Life Destruction realm. From each of them, Lin Ming could feel the same powerful energy and aura; anyone that could arrive here was not an ordinary elite of their generation!

At this time, a slightly aged voice echoed out in the temple, “Everyone, head to the Ancient Phoenix Totem training ground!”

“Ancient Phoenix Totem training ground?” Lin Ming was surprised. He glanced over at Yellowright Min.”

“Hehe, It’s finally time. You’re quite lucky. Everyone else here had waited all day to enter the Ancient Phoenix Totem grounds and to choose their own training area to comprehend the Laws. You’ve made it just on time! This Ancient Phoenix Totem is Timeworn Phoenix City’s treasure!”

As Yellowright Min mentioned the Ancient Phoenix Totem, his two eyes began to brightly shine. “These totems were left behind by some unrivaled powerhouses of the Phoenix Clan. Some of these totems were shaped in the primal chaos of the forming universe. These stone totems are known as treasures that can touch upon the very source of the Great Dao. If you can thoroughly comprehend them, you can become someone within the entire Realm of the Gods with one of the deepest understanding of Laws!”

One could become an individual with one of the deepest comprehensions of Laws within the Realm of the Gods just by meditating on these totems? Lin Ming was a bit surprised. That seemed too exaggerated to him. “What exactly are those primal forming chaos stone totems?”

Listening to Lin Ming’s query, Yellowright Min revealed a look of deep longing. In a respectful tone, he slowly said, “In the legends, before the universe was conceived, all there was in existence was chaos; the three thousand boundless worlds and the Realm of the Gods hadn’t yet formed. This is the so-called primal forming chaos. These stone totems are carved from the traces of source energy and principles during the time when the primal chaos was taking form. In Timeworn Phoenix City, there are three of these primal forming chaos stone totems! Each one contains a trace of the root of all Laws!”

Hearing Yellowright Min's explanation, Lin Ming was notably shocked. If this was true, then Yellowright Min's views from before weren't exaggerated at all.

“Would a primal chaos carved stone forged in the beginning of the universe really be left behind in the lower world of mortals? Wouldn't the major forces of the Realm of the Gods be envious? In Lin Ming's view, these sorts of stone totems should only appear in the core training areas of a Realm of the Gods' Holy Land.

Yellowright Min said, “These stone totems, although they are extremely precious, aren't up to the specialized standards of the Realm of the Gods. The primal chaos of the forming universe was endlessly broad and limitless. There was an unending amount of source energy; countless of these sorts of stone totems were shaped at that time. The three stone totems of Timeworn Phoenix City are only a square foot in size. As for those stone totems in the Realm of the Gods' Holy Lands, they are far, far larger, and the inherent mystical principles contained within are even more profound.”

“I see...” Lin Ming said with an understanding nod, “Thank you Brother Yellowright.”

“Hahaha, we martial artists of the lower realms must mutually support each other!”

As Yellowright Min and Lin Ming conversed, they finally made their way to the transmission array where the Ancient Phoenix Totem was.

This was the center of the entire Timeworn Phoenix City. Because of the limited resources and the massive amount of outstanding heroic elites, every round of meditation was only allowed to last for three days. The reason that Yellowright Min and the others had been waiting here was to be next in line.

Within the Ancient Phoenix Totem training grounds, a red-robed old man was already waiting there. As he saw all the young elites arrive, he said, “This is your first time coming to the Ancient Phoenix Totem training ground. Here, there are a total of 35 Ancient Phoenix totem stones. All of you have two hours to choose which totem stone you would like. In order to prevent conflict of choice, all of you will be judged on your attainments in Laws and Concepts, and the ones with the highest comprehension will have the first choice.”

“After you choose, everyone can enter their training area to meditate for three days. Three days later, no matter what you have perceived or what result you have, you must leave. Now, let me give you some choice advice. The primal forming chaos stone totems are excellent, but if you wish to perceive them it is simply impossible with your qualifications. Do not aim too high. Now, we shall start comparing comprehension of Concepts to decide the priority of choosing!”

Chapter 721 – Test of Laws

When the red-robed man spoke about comparing comprehension of Concepts, all of the young elites' eyes present began to shine with a brilliant light. All of them were outstanding individuals of their generation and they all had absolute self-confidence in their understanding of Laws.

When such extraordinary youths gathered together, it was natural for them to wish to outdo each other, all of them hoping to have a chance to show off their superior abilities.

And this comparison of Concepts was exactly the best opportunity to do so.

“Haha, a competition of comparing our Concept of Fire? I have complete confidence in this!” Yellowright Min excitedly rubbed his palms together, as if he couldn't wait to start.

All of the young elites present seemed eager to start. The red-robed old man didn't bother with any more small talk; he drew out a red picture scroll from his spatial ring.

This picture scroll seemed to reveal an atmosphere that made one feel the vicissitudes of life. It was tied together with a simple red thread.

“That's the Ancient Phoenix Testament!”

“It truly is the Ancient Phoenix Testament! I’ve only ever heard about it in my clan’s ancient texts, but today, I’ve finally seen the real thing!” A heroic elite’s eyes shone. This Ancient Phoenix Testament was left behind by a Patriarch from the Realm of the Gods’ Phoenix Clan just before he underwent Nirvana. He had written several dozen of these pieces, but there shouldn’t be more than two within Timeworn Phoenix City. Besides the totem stones, these were the next-most precious treasures!

Hwaa!

The red-robed old man unfurled the crimson picture scroll and a burning hot energy suddenly emanated outward. On the picture scroll, there was the image of a phoenix hidden within, twisting about as if it would escape the confines of the scroll at any moment.

“Who’s first?”

“Me!”

“Me!”

“Me, me!”

Several young elites impatiently raised their hands, waving them about.

“You!” The red-robed old man casually pointed at Yellowright

Min. Yellowright Min's face immediately filled with excitement. A chance to perceive the Ancient Phoenix Testament was very rare.

“Stand before the Ancient Phoenix Testament and comprehend the power of the Laws within. I shall judge your individual comprehension, compatibility degree, as well as your attainments in the Concept of Fire. The final outcome shall be decided by me. Now, start.”

“Yes, sir!” Yellowright Min stepped forwards, his eyes rapidly widening as he stared steadily at the crimson picture scroll. After several breaths of time, it seemed as if he had fallen into a peculiar trance. Reflected in the pupils of his eyes, all sorts of enigmatic flaming lines began forming, smoldering with all kinds of profound principles.

Yellowright Min stood in front of the Ancient Phoenix Testament for 20-some breaths of time. Then, beside Yellowright Min, several weak orbs of light appeared. These tiny spots seemed very common, but Lin Ming could sense that they were made of the purest fire origin energy, an energy that approached the source of Fire Laws!

After ten more breaths of time, these pale orbs of light slowly converged into Yellowright Min's body before vanishing out of sight.

Yellowright Min shook, suddenly waking up from his stupor. Those brilliant reflections of fire in his eyes faded away, and he dripped with sweat as he gasped for breath in heaving gulps, his eyes filled with excitement.

“Too mysterious! Really too mysterious! If I could read this Ancient Phoenix Testament then I would definitely be able to understand the origin of all Fire Laws!

Yellowright Min’s face was filled with happiness and longing. There wasn’t just one Ancient Phoenix Testament. As long as his talent was high enough then he would have the chance to enter the Realm of the Gods’ Phoenix Clan, and there he could perceive the other Ancient Phoenix Testaments. When that time came, his comprehension of the Concept of Fire would reach an astoundingly high degree.

“Five breaths of Law fusion. The tiny amount of fire-attribute source energy you absorbed is barely passable. Your result is second-level, C-grade,” the red-robed Elder said without any expression.

Hearing the red-robed Elders evaluation, Yellowright Ming’s burning heart suddenly cooled down with disappointment.

The tiny amount of fire-attribute source energy he had absorbed was just passable...

This evaluation really stung Yellowright Min’s ego; he had been very proud of his strengths in the comprehension of the Concept of Fire. In fact, he had even surpassed the potential of an Emperor-level powerhouse and none of his peers had ever been able to catch up to him. Yet his evaluation here today had been classified as “just passable.”

“Five breaths of Law fusion can only be considered subpar.” Among the other young elites, a young man with scales between his eyebrows muttered, obviously looking down at Yellowright Min’s results with disdain.

Yellowright Min’s face flushed. He was about to snap back when another man interrupted him, “Stop fighting. Here, results are all that matter. I’ll give it a go!”

The martial artist who had spoken was also from the lower realm of mortals. His name was Man Ka and he originated from the Kobe Star. Earlier, Yellowright Min had introduced him to Lin Ming.

Man Ka and Yellowright Min might have come from two different worlds, but as martial artists who came from the lower realms, they naturally banded together when faced with a common opponent.

Man Ka stood before the Ancient Phoenix Testament and opened his eyes as wide as he could. For four breaths of time, he seemed to enter into some strange trance. Then, after another 30 breaths of time, a very weak fire energy formed around him. It slowly converged into his body. Man Ka shook, then awakening from his stupor.

The red-robed man said, “Four breaths of meditation. With the small amount of fire source energy you absorbed, your comprehension of Laws is barely above average. Your result is second-level, B-grade.”

Another second-level evaluation.... Ma Ka frowned, obviously not satisfied with his result.

In the group from the Realm of the Gods, the man with red scales between his eyebrows faintly smiled. He said to a grinning, red-clothed young man beside him, “Huo Ping, why don’t you go up and try?”

“Haha, I didn’t want to go on stage and embarrass myself, but if Brother Long asks me to, then I should humbly accept this opportunity.”

The red-clothed young man sounded modest, but his face was fully confident. His wide smile wasn’t able to hide the obvious disdain he felt for the others. As he casually stood in front of the Ancient Phoenix Testament, only three breaths of time passed before traces of fire lines and flaming clouds reflected in his pupils. Then, after another 30 breaths of time, all around the red-clothed youth, dozens of rice-sized orbs of luminescent red light appeared, flying into the red-clothed youth as if they were a swarm of birds.

The red-clothed youth awoke from his meditation and said a bit breathlessly, “That felt great!”

“Three breaths of meditation, the little power of the fire source energy you absorbed can be considered just satisfactory. You, have you looked upon the Ancient Phoenix Testaments before?” The red-robed old man calmly asked. His eyes were extremely sharp; he easily saw that this wasn’t the red-clothed youth’s first time

reading the Ancient Phoenix Testament.

“Yes, Sir. I saw it once, just two years ago,” the red-clothed youth confidently said. He originated from the Ancient Phoenix Clan within the Realm of the Gods; it wasn’t strange for him to have had a chance to have viewed the Ancient Phoenix Testaments at some point.

The red-robed old man said, “If this was your first time witnessing the Ancient Phoenix Testament, then I would have just barely graded you at the first-level, C-grade. But now, you can only be considered at the second-level, A-grade!”

Hearing the red-robed old man’s evaluation, all of young heroic elites from the lower realms, in particular Yellowright Min and Man Ka, had extremely ugly complexions. Just a casual youth from the Realm of the Gods had embarrassed them both.

The young heroic elites of the lower realms weren’t convinced by this. They all came up one after another, and the result was that the majority of them were at the second-level, C-grade, with a small number of them making it through to the second-level, B-grade.

Such results were truly shocking. All of these young heroic elites present had been peerless youths of their own generations. Now, for them to have such a result, all of them experienced acute mental anguish!

“Brother Nuyan, your comprehension of the Concept of Fire

should also be good! How about you go up and give it a try?" Yellowright Min try to encourage Lin Ming to step forward. He was counting on Lin Ming to obtain some magnificent result.

Lin Ming was also left a bit speechless. In the comprehension of Concepts and Laws, he had considered himself quite proficient. But that was only compared to the martial artists of the Sky Spill Continent. If he had to compare himself to these geniuses from the Ancient Phoenix Clan, especially in the Concept of Fire that they all specialized in, then he was completely unsure of himself.

He suspected that if he went up, the most he would obtain was a third-level C-grade result. Third-level B-grade didn't seem likely for him.

'Looks like I won't win the chance to choose first.' Lin Ming shook his head. He didn't mind much. To each their own. What he received would be what he received, whether or not it was too extravagant.

"I'll also try. I haven't seen the Ancient Phoenix Testaments for a long time already; I wonder just what sort of result I'll have." After over 90% of the martial artists had finished, the youth with red scales between his eyebrows finally moved. He walked before the Ancient Phoenix Testament, casually standing there.

"Ugh, just seeing that man's face disgusts me!" Yellowright Min said as he saw the youth's confident expression. But he also understood that since that youth was able to become one of the leaders amongst that group of six from the Realm of the Gods, he naturally had areas where he excelled.

As the youth stood before the Ancient Phoenix Testament, his gaze suddenly focused. As he faced the Ancient Phoenix Testament, it was like he was facing a mortal enemy in a battle where life and death were on the line.

Hu!

Within the temple, a burst of wind suddenly appeared out of thin air. The scales between the young man's eyebrows suddenly shined with a brilliant red line. Then, images of fire began to reflect within his pupils.

“Two breaths of time?” The red-robed old man that managed this test finally began to show some emotion. Any young elite who could start fusing the power of Laws with just two breaths of time would be considered quite good, even within the Realm of the Gods' central Ancient Phoenix Clan.

The young man stood in front of the Ancient Phoenix Testament for a bit less than half an incense stick of time. Then, small bean-sized orbs of red light began to form, lighting up the temple as they wandered about like fireflies dancing in the night sky.

When Yellowright Min saw this, even he had to admit that the difference between him and this red-scaled man was too great. The source energy this man had managed to condense was several times or even dozens of times what he had accomplished!

After several breaths of time, these tiny lights rapidly flew into

the red-scaled man's body. Then the man's body began to shimmer with a faint blood-red light. A moment later, he let out a light breath, but not exhausted on the ground, heaving in great breaths like Yellowright Min had been. Instead, he seemed refreshed, in a much more comfortable mood.

Seeing this, Yellowright Min could no longer remain angry. Compared to this red-scaled youth, his own performance that he had been so excited about was probably no different from a country bumpkin messing around. It was no wonder that he had been looked down on by others.

The disparity in origin was simply too difficult to make up!

The martial artists from the lower realms were left with bad tastes in their mouths. This red-scaled youth had obviously looked at the Ancient Phoenix Testaments multiple times before this. As for them, this was their first time gazing upon it. There was simply no way to compare; this was the disparity of resources.

“Two breaths of Law fusion, the moderate amount of flame source energy you absorbed is indeed satisfactory. Your result is first-level, B-grade.” The red-robed old man stroked his beard, smiling as he spoke.

First-level, B-grade?

All present couldn't help but be convinced from this. Besides this red-scaled man, none of the other martial artists had achieved a first-level result. Without incident, this should be the best result.

“Now, for those who haven’t been tested yet, come up.” The red-robed old man glanced over the remaining martial artists who hadn’t yet come up for the test, among whom Lin Ming was included.

Chapter 722 – Perceiving the Source of Fire

Because the red-scaled youth's performance was too dazzling, there was an awkward silence for a time afterwards. No one wanted to try right after.

“I'll give it a go too!” With a clear sound, a woman dressed in red stepped in front of the Ancient Phoenix Testament. She was also from the group of geniuses from the Realm of the Gods. She wasn't too beautiful, but she had a very dainty appearance. She serenely looked at the red-robed old man and said, “Realm of the God's Huo Clan, Huo Yu!”

“Okay. You may begin.” The red-robed old man showed the Ancient Phoenix Testament to the woman dressed in red.

A sharp light shone in her eyes, and then an incomparably burning hot, crimson true essence suddenly erupted. In the next moment, flaming lines appeared in her pupils, a trace representation of the source of all fire principles.

Two breaths of time! She also took two breaths of time!

The successive Realm of the Gods martial artists had only taken two breaths of time to fuse with the fire-attribute Laws. None of the lower realm martial artists were exasperated by this though; the disparity between them was too obvious.

The woman dressed in red took several dozen breaths of time, and then, rice-sized grains of red light appeared before sinking into

her body.

“Two breaths of time in meditation, a small amount of fire source energy absorbed. Your result is the first-level, C-grade!” The red-robed old man said with a satisfied expression. For two new trial challengers to have a first-level comprehension was already a very good result.

After two first-level results suddenly popped out from the Realm of the Gods group, the lower realm martial artists could only look at each other in blank dismay. For a long time, no one went on up. Going up now would only emphasize the great disparity between them. The pressure was just too great. If one couldn't achieve an eye-catching result, then one couldn't even hold their heads up anymore.

Those martial artists from the Realm of the Gods had already all gone up. They happily looked over at the martial artists from the lower realms; the pressure on those martial artists who still hadn't gone to determine their talent was suddenly enormous

After several awkward breaths of time passed, Lin Ming moved towards the Ancient Phoenix Testament.

“Brother Nuyan, it's not too good if you go up now; the pressure is too great....” Yellowright Min kindly reminded him. He didn't know how well Lin Ming comprehended the Laws of Fire, but he likely wouldn't be able to compare with those two monstrous geniuses from the Realm of the Gods.

“It doesn’t matter.” Lin Ming didn’t care if others made fun of him. His Concept of Fire wasn’t too impressive. Let alone his Concept of Fire, even his Concept of Space wasn’t comparable to the others. His advantage lay in his dual cultivation of law and body, and his foundation that was solid to the extreme.

As Lin Ming stepped forwards, everyone immediately looked at him.

“A boy from those lower realm dregs is coming up. Haha, if he has the courage to come up then he should have some skill. If he does well, he might reach the second-level, B-grade.”

“Maybe even second-level, A-grade. Although those lower realm martial artists are mostly trash, there are occasionally one or two that are passable. If he can reach the second-level, A-grade then that’s about the same as you.” A Realm of the Gods martial artist teased Huo Ping. Huo Ping had been the first martial artist from the Realm of the Gods to go up. His evaluation had been at the second-level, A-grade.”

“Humph, second-level, A-grade isn’t that hard to achieve either,” Huo Ping dismissively said. He didn’t like that others were comparing him to Lin Ming, a mere boy from the world of mortals.

Lin Ming ignored these conversations. Instead, he stood in front of the Ancient Phoenix Testament and reported his name. “Sky Spill Continent’s Nuyan Family, Nuyan Ming.”

“Mm, begin,” the red-robed old man said without expression as

he showed the Ancient Phoenix Testament to Li Ming.

As Lin Ming looked straight at the images and words of the Ancient Phoenix Testament, he didn't feel anything at the start. But, after looking at it more carefully, he only felt that it contained infinite mysteries. Those strange lines and letters that looked like dancing dragons and phoenixes seemed as if they contained the very source of the Great Dao, from when the universe began forming! The truths and principles contained within were far too profound; for a time, Lin Ming fell into a trance.

This sort of feeling was like his mind had been suddenly stuffed with a massive amount of information. It made his head ache and his consciousness blur.

Lin Ming bit down on his tongue and the battle spirit in his spiritual sea trembled. It was only then that Lin Ming was able to calm his mind.

One breath of time...two breaths of time...three breaths of time....

At the fourth breath of time, no images of the Fire Laws reflected yet in Lin Ming's eyes. This caused Yellowright Ming to be nervous for Lin Ming. If he couldn't show fusion with the Fire Laws at four breaths of time, then at most he would obtain a second-level, C-rank result. If he had this result at the very start, then it wouldn't have been too shameful. But to have this result now, after those two Realm of the Gods geniuses had shown off, then others would simply laugh at him.

The Realm of the Gods' disciples grinned as they saw this, talking amongst themselves. Huo Ping had a smug expression as he said, "How mediocre. Although I didn't reach the first-level, a second-level, A-grade is still a degree of glory that these lower realm martial artists will never hope to achieve."

Lin Ming still remained immersed in perceiving the Laws of Fire.

Five breaths of time...

Six breaths of time...

...Six breaths of time?

Yellowright Min was shocked. Six breaths of time was certainly "breaking a record," but it was the record for being the worst. Out of everyone whom had gone up so far, no one had surpassed five breaths of time.

"Six breaths of time! What? Six breaths of time most likely means he doesn't have the qualifications to reach the second-level; he'll be at the third-level. How could such a person have crossed the king level trial qualifications?"

As a Realm of the Gods martial artist commented, even the red-robed man who was managing the test slightly frowned. He too suspected whether or not Lin Ming had the qualifications to past the king level smelting trial.

Was it possible that his bloodline was light but his combat strength was extraordinary?

Seven breaths....eight breaths...

No trace of flame principles yet appeared in Lin Ming's pupils.

All of the martial artists had strange expressions on their faces. Where did this fellow come from? This performance was just too disappointing! Did he come here to waste everyone's time?

Finally, at the tenth breath of time, small flickering lines finally reflected in Lin Ming's eyes. People thought that Lin Ming had finally fused with the Flame Laws, but what followed afterwards left everyone speechless.

That little trace of flame source principles hadn't even spread out when they had already hidden themselves again, vanishing without a trace.

"This..."

Even Yellowright Min couldn't continue watching such an embarrassing sight. To use ten breaths of time to finally achieve fusion with the Fire Laws and still fail at the end! What a joke!

11 breaths of time...

12 breaths of time...

The tiny traces of fire source principles appeared again. But, just like the last time, these traces didn't even grow before they disappeared again, restoring Lin Ming's pupils to darkness.

“Good heavens! He failed again! This fellow's comprehension of the Concept of Fire is simply at a trivial level!” a Realm of the Gods martial artist impatiently exclaimed.

“Sir Protector, he's obviously wasting our time here. I have no idea how he got in, but his understandings into the Concept of Fire might as well be the same as a 13-or 14-year-old child,” another Realm of the Gods martial artist said.

“If he continues being unable to fuse with the Fire Laws, do we just continue watching? The Ancient Phoenix Testaments are handwritten scriptures left behind by our Ancient Phoenix Clan's Patriarchs before they died and ascended to Nirvana. Thus, their numbers are limited. Even a genius might not have a chance to perceive them. And yet currently it is currently being squandered on this fellow here. This is truly a waste!” a martial artist said in a gratingly harsh voice.

The red-robed old man's face became gloomy and he said in a low voice, “This old man is the director of the test here. Whether or not anyone has the qualifications to participate in the smelting trial, do you think that is something you can comment on? When a trial challenger is meditating on the source of Fire Laws, no one

can fight, no one can cause a disturbance! Otherwise, any and all offenders shall be expelled from Timeworn Phoenix City!”

As the red-robed old man spoke, he released an invisible aura. As the pressure pushed down on that Realm of the Gods martial artist, his face paled and he suddenly dared not speak further.

The truth was that, even if they fiercely argued with each other, Lin Ming wouldn't have heard them anyways. At this time, he was deep in meditation. He had sealed off his five senses and wasn't even aware of the passing of time. With the support of the ethereal martial intent, he was completely focused on comprehending the source of Fire Laws.

Lin Ming's understanding of the Concept of Fire could truly only be considered at a very basic level; within the Ancient Phoenix Clan, it was equivalent to that of a 13-or 14-year-old child. He had to use a full ten breaths of time in order to touch upon these principles, producing a trace of it in his pupils.

However, just as these tiny traces formed, they had actually vanished. To Lin Ming's surprise, he discovered that these trace principles were actually being absorbed by the Heretical God Seed!

After these traces were absorbed, they sealed themselves on the surface of the Heretical God Seed, forming a small circle of totems.

Lin Ming had never imagined that this would occur. He continued to perceive the source Fire Laws from the Ancient Phoenix Testament. After several more breaths of time, he once

more became faintly aware, producing yet another tiny trace of fire principles within his eyes. However, after another brief moment, these traces were again absorbed by the Heretical God Seed.

This repeated itself several times. More and more runes were engraved on the Heretical God Seed, becoming increasingly clear.

Lin Ming carefully observed these engraved flame seals on the Heretical God Seed and found that they were similar to those of the Ancient Phoenix Testament. However, there were some slight differences. The ones within him were even more mysterious and incomprehensible.

Lin Ming was shocked. He continued to perceive them—he faintly felt that within these capricious mysterious, the most enigmatic power of source Laws sealed there was slowly beginning to open their doors to him. A vast and vibrant breadth of the Great Dao seemed to blow out, the mysteries of the universe's essential Laws wrapped within its grasp!

20 breaths of time...

30 breaths of time...

As Lin Ming was in meditation, he felt that all the mysteries of the Ancient Phoenix Testament were being engraved onto the Heretical God Seed!

In half an incense stick of time, Lin Ming still didn't move. Now it wasn't just the Realm of the Gods martial artists who were becoming impatient, even the martial artists from the lower realms were also growing antsy. They had come to Timeworn Phoenix City in order to perceive the root of Flame Laws, not see someone meditate on the most elementary level of the Concept of Fire.

However, because of the red-robed old man, no one dared to speak. Yellowright Min looked at Lin Ming, his mouth crooked; just what was Lin Ming doing?

If he couldn't even fuse with the power of Laws within half an incense stick of time, then this was a once-in-a-lifetime performance that really defied the heavens. Just how had he managed to mingle himself into Timeworn Phoenix City?

While Yellowright Min was lost in thought, at this moment, Lin Ming's body suddenly shook. Within his eyes, complex lines of fire began reflecting within his pupils. These lines were constantly evolving and changing, as if they contained the endless riddles of the universe.

The less knowledgeable young martial artists didn't seem to think anything was strange, but as the red-robed test director saw this, his eyes lit up and he held his breath. "This is...."

The red-robed old man muttered to himself. But at this time, around Lin Ming, a crazy amount of flame source energy began rapidly condensing. A group of fist-sized red orbs of light grew at a noticeable pace, illuminating the dark hall with a luminous glow.

“What are these lights?” The martial artists present were all stunned.

“Could...could this be the power of fire source energy? Is this a joke...” Huo Ping was bewildered. The red-scaled youth from the Realm of the Gods had only been able to form a bean-sized amount of this energy, but Lin Ming had formed those the size of a fist! The energy contained within was dozens or even hundreds of times richer!

Chapter 723 – In Stark Opposition

Although it was hard to believe, all of the martial artists present were masters of Fire Laws. How could they not recognize the power of fire source energy?

Those round balls of red light contained a staggering amount of pure fire source energy. Not just that, but they were still continuing to grow.

The red-scaled man from the Realm of the Gods sucked in a deep breath. Compared to these energy orbs that Lin Ming had conjured, his own had been like fireflies in a bright night's moonlight; they were simply incomparable.

“Where did this fellow come from? How could he have such a terrifying source energy compatibility?”

In studying the Ancient Phoenix Testament, the process was divided into two parts. The first was a martial artist's perception and the degree they were able to perceive the Laws. The higher one's perception was and the higher their attainments in fire-attribute Laws, then the speed of their fusion with these Laws would also be higher.

The second part was a martial artist's compatibility with fire source energy. The easier it was for a martial artist to fuse with this source energy, then the more source energy they would absorb after meditating on the Ancient Phoenix Testament.

Lin Ming's current situation was that he had taken nearly half an incense stick of time to fuse with the Laws; this proved that his comprehension of the Concept of Fire was only at the most basic, elementary level. However, what was surprising was that after he fused with the Laws, the source energy he absorbed was over a 100 times that of the red-scaled man!

This gap left all of the Realm of the Gods martial artists dumbfounded, all of them unable to utter a word. No one had heard of such a strange and wonderful situation like this happening in the history of the Ancient Phoenix Clan.

At this moment, the last flame totem pattern finally etched itself onto the surface of the Heretical God Seed. Then, the entire pattern flashed with a bright light and all of the surrounding fist-sized source energies began flocking towards Lin Ming's body like a pack of phoenixes!

For a time, Lin Ming's entire body burned, emitting dazzling rays of golden light that stung the eyes of everyone present. They could hear the very source of the Great Dao crying out from within Lin Ming's body, sending out that vast and infinite aura, as if a phoenix itself was undergoing rebirth through Nirvana within his body!

As the red-robed old man saw this, he sucked in a deep breath. He looked at Lin Ming, all sorts of thoughts flashing by his eyes.

All of the other martial artists in the hall weren't sure just what to say, or even what had happened.

As Huo Ping saw all those incomparably precious red lights completely absorbed by Lin Ming, his heart heated with frustration. To take half an incense stick of time was the result of a 14 or 15 year old child in their clan. But his ability to absorb fire source energy had actually thrown off everyone here by countless miles.

For a martial artist, it was possible to use time to slowly make up for their degree of perceiving Laws through meditation. But a martial artist's compatibility to fire source energy was something they were born with; it wasn't easy to increase. The higher compatibility that a martial artist had, the easier it was for them to move the massive amount of fire origin energy present in the world. Their endurance, restorative ability, and striking force was a level above those martial artists with a lower compatibility.

For a time, Huo Ping's heart surged with jealousy and a deep abiding sense of helplessness. He gritted his teeth and said to the red-scaled youth, "Brother Long, this king level smelting trial is our first battle. If we already lose to others here, we won't even be able to apply to return to the Realm of the Gods for the second stage of the trial. If we continue to be pressured by this boy, then even if our result was originally good then it still becomes garbage."

For many cases, results were relative, not absolute. In their world, the only result that matter was becoming number one, because only the person at the apex would be noticed by others. For the person that obtained second place, even if their results were better than the one in first place, they would still be overshadowed. This was why some people thought that it was a

sorrow to be born in the same generation as a peerless hero.

The red-scaled youth named Brother Long said, “We can’t compare to him in compatibility, but on the other hand, his comprehension of the Concept of Fire is far inferior to ours. Both of us have our own respective strengths. As for who will win in the end, no one knows. I guess that this fellow’s perception shouldn’t be that great.”

As Huo Ping listened to the red-scaled man speak, his eyes lit up. Ah, that was right! Because of that one blow from Lin Ming just now he had nearly forgotten how much more superior he was to begin with. Lin Ming’s affinity with fire source energy was indeed extraordinary, but if his perception and comprehension of the Concept of Fire was horrible, then he would never be able to perceive higher level of abilities and skills, and all that compatibility would be wasted.

Thinking of this, the crestfallen Huo Ping gathered up all of his collapsed confidence again.

“Brother Long is right. His perception shouldn’t be any good, otherwise his comprehension of the Concept of Fire wouldn’t be poor to that degree. Moreover, in the king level smelting trial, one must meditate and perceive the 36 Ancient Phoenix totem stones; perception is too important for this. We have the advantage in this aspect. This fellow is likely a simple-minded boy with a great body and nothing else; he certainly shouldn’t be able to perceive any sort of pattern. Someone with such a monstrous talent for compatibility with fire source energy having such poor perception is truly a waste!” Huo Ping said, incensed. If only that fellow could

hand over that monstrous compatibility to him then life would be great.

“Our talents have already been tested. We should be choosing our Ancient Phoenix totem stones soon. Huo Ping, with my understanding of you, it would be a good decision if you chose the Profound Gold Flame Totem left behind by the Twelfth Patriarch.” The red-scaled youth began to remind the young elites from the Realm of the Gods with true essence sound transmissions. The red-scaled youth had a very good understanding of the totem stones in Timeworn Phoenix City.

“Alright Brother Long, I’ll listen to you,” Huo Ping happily said. Everyone would only have two hours to choose which Ancient Phoenix Totem they wanted. Choosing the best totem stone for oneself in a limited timespan wasn’t easy; it was much better with guidance from someone.

“You are called Nuyan Ming, correct?” The red-robed man had a faint smile hanging on his face as he looked at Lin Ming.

“Yes, Sir.” Lin Ming cupped his fists together, replying in a respectful yet pleasant manner.

“Your compatibility with source energy is good. But. It’s just a pity that your comprehension of Fire Laws are lacking. This is the first time that I’ve seen a situation like this so it’s not possible for me to give you an accurate evaluation. For now, I’ll temporarily judge you as first-level, A-grade.” As the red-robed old man slowly drawled out his words, the red-scaled youth slightly frowned.

A first-level, A-grade evaluation meant that Lin Ming would have the first choice. Of the 36 Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones of Timeworn Phoenix City, there were several choices that were obviously better than the others. If Lin Ming chose the same one as him then he would have no choice but to give it to Lin Ming.

“Thank you, Sir.” Lin Ming could feel the goodwill from the red-robed old man’s words. He had disregarded his elementary comprehension of Laws and had even evaluated him at the first-level, A-grade, giving him first choice.

“Nuyan Ming, your situation is certainly rare in my Ancient Phoenix Clan. I shall give you some advice. Perception and comprehension of Laws are often more important than your compatibility with source energy. You must not be complacent just because of some advantages you have. Within the Realm of the Gods, where the main clan is, there are those who have a perfect Phoenix Clan bloodline, and there are many monstrous youths that have a compatibility and perception that far outstrip you! Since your perception is poor you must practice and perceive the Laws through meditation every day; do not waste your compatibility with source energy! As the saying goes, a lack of talent can be made up with hard work and effort. Make sure that you try your hardest.”

As the red-robed old man slowly spoke, all of the other martial artists in the hall grew jealous. The red-robed old man had clearly taken a liking towards this Lin Ming otherwise he would never have given such useful advice. The advantages were obvious in obtaining the recognition of a senior from Timeworn Phoenix City.

“Yes, Sir, this junior understands.” Lin Ming deeply bowed to show his thanks.

The red-robed old man nodded with satisfaction. “I should also mention that if you can catch up in the aspect of comprehension of Laws, after you reach the Divine Sea realm, then I can recommend you to go to the Realm of the Gods to complete the second stage of your trial. Of course, the basis of this is that you can obtain the number one spot in the first stage of this trial.”

As the red-robed old man’s voice fell, everyone was shocked silly!

As long as he could obtain the number one spot in the first stage of this smelting trial, then he could go to the Realm of the Gods to attempt the second stage!

The king level smelting trial grounds of the Realm of the Gods was where many outstanding young elites of the Ancient Phoenix Clan wished to go, but many didn’t have the qualifications to do so! As for the Ancient Phoenix Clan martial artists of the lower realms, obtaining these qualifications was simply wishful thinking!

Now, Lin Ming actually had this chance! How could they not be jealous!

Many martial artists couldn’t help but glance at the red-scaled youth from the Realm of the Gods. In order for Lin Ming to obtain the top spot, he would have to surpass that youth!

Lin Ming's compatibility was indeed high, but that red-scaled youth's perception was abnormal. This was a battle of compatibility versus perception. They stood in stark opposition to each other!

The red-scaled youth looked intensely at Lin Ming. He had thought that he would easily stroll through the smelting trial of Timeworn Phoenix City, but he didn't imagine that events would rapidly devolve to this degree. The red-robed old man's words were obviously spoken to stir up some conflict. When astounding talents went all out to defeat the other, they would be able to bring out their maximum potential through competition, breaking through their own limits.

This battle was one he must win. Not only was this a matter of honor and face, but it was also because he presented the true Phoenix Clan from the Realm of the Gods.

The red-scaled youth's expression didn't change. He sent a true essence sound transmission to Huo Ping: "I must win first place in this smelting trial. This is not related to glory. If I lose, then I shall be relegated to a much more minor position in the family. You must help me as much as you can."

The red-scaled youth also came from the Huo Clan within the Realm of the Gods. His name was Huo Wenlong. The great families of the Realm of the Gods placed great importance on tradition and glory; all of them had a natural sense of superiority deeply ingrained within their bones. To them, a heroic young elite from a Family Clan within the Realm of the Gods had no choice but to

become number one.

If Huo Wenlong was used as a stepping stone by Lin Ming this time, then he would lose all sense of glory and pride. Moreover, Huo Wenlong had originally lost the qualifications to attend the king level smelting trial in the Realm of the Gods to begin with, and because of that his heart had been turbulent. He had steeled himself to make a big show here to show his Family Clan just how talented he was in order to try returning to the Realm of the Gods for the next stage of the smelting trial. But, if he lost here, then that dream would vanish.

“Of course. Brother Long, Seventh Sister and I will help you as much as we can.” Huo Ping immediately displayed his utter loyalty. He couldn’t really be regarded as any decent talent within the Realm of the Gods’ Huo Clan. If nothing happened, then he would be assigned by the clan to go out to the middle of nowhere and manage a branch business of arranging training resources. If he could be on good terms with Huo Wenlong, then this would be very helpful to him in the future.

“Well done. The test has ended here. You can all go to choose your own Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone Now. You all have two hours to choose. Two hours from now, all of you must show which choice you’ve made to me.” The red-robed old man spoke before turning around, and leading everyone deeper into the temple.

Chapter 724 – Burning Heaven Totem Stone

There was a great deal of skill involved in choosing an Ancient Phoenix Totem. If one didn't roughly understand the various 36 Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones, then choosing one within two hours wouldn't be easy, especially for those whose choices were of a lower priority.

The 36 Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones were either precious artifacts left behind by peerless powerhouses of the Ancient Phoenix Clan or they had been forged in the primal creation chaos of the universe. Either way, they were incomparably precious treasures. Still, if one had to compare them, each one had their own advantages and disadvantages.

Even though some had been created by the peerless powerhouses of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, there were ones made by Patriarchs and ones made by Elders; of course, there were differences between them. Moreover, even if they had been created by the same peerless powerhouses, the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones each of them left behind had still been divided into ordinary works and superior works; there was no defined standard.

The red-robed old man led the group to walk down for a quarter hour. Suddenly, in front of them, a great open corridor appeared. This corridor was 300 feet wide, and wide enough to fit 10 carriages side by side, still leaving some space.

On both sides of this corridor there were red metal doors. These metal doors were 200 feet high and 100 feet wide, engraved with a variety of images. There were immortal Phoenixes, three-legged

Golden Crows, rising suns, and crimson-colored eyes.

The red-robed old man said, “The area where we now are is called the Four Corridors of Twisting Flame. As the name suggests, there is a total of four levels. From the inside to outside, the mysteries and Laws contained within the totem stones become much simpler.

“At the very center is the Chaos Corridor. The Chaos Corridor has three chambers, each with a totem stone within. These totem stones were formed at the very beginning of the universe, when all that existed was pure chaos. Thus, these totem stones have a trace of the chaos source energy left over from the creation of the universe; one could consider these objects to be touching upon the very root of the Great Dao. If you can completely understand them then you may become one of people with the deepest comprehension of the Laws, within the entire Realm of the Gods! However... this old man shall be honest with all of you. With your current realm, going into those three chambers won't have much of an effect on you. Even if your perception is high, you can give up on obtaining any benefits there; your current boundary is simply far too lacking. Let alone you, even those trial challengers from the second stage would have trouble perceiving the mysteries within them.

“Outside the Chaos Corridor is the Sky Corridor. The Sky Corridor has three chambers, each one containing an Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone. These three totem stones have all been left behind by previous Patriarchs of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. Moreover, they are among their greatest works. In Timeworn Phoenix City, their value is only inferior to the Chaos Totem Stones.

“Afterwards, outside the Sky Corridor is the Earth Corridor. It has a total of ten chambers, and the totem stones there have also been left behind by precious Patriarchs, the only difference being that they are inferior to the previously mentioned top works.

“And the outermost corridor is called the Mortal Corridor. There is a total of 20 chambers there. The totem stones there have all been created by previous Elders of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. Moreover, the best of these works are not much worse than those left behind by the previous Patriarchs.”

As the red-robed Elder introduced the stone totems to the martial artists, their faces were filled with regret intertwined with longing. Many of them looked at Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong, their eyes filled with envy.

The two of them would undoubtedly choose two of the three chambers in the Sky Corridor. As for the rest, the stronger ones would go to the Earth Corridor, and the remaining ones would have to go to the Mortal Corridor.

In the Mortal Corridor were the works left behind by the countless Elders of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. In the Realm of the Gods, there was a single Patriarch of the Ancient Phoenix Clan at one time. Moreover, because their lives were extremely long, all of the previous Patriarchs added together were probably only a few hundred. However, Elders were different. In every new generation of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, there were possibly dozens or even hundreds of Elders. Even if the totem stones they crafted here were their greatest works, those still wouldn't be able to compare with a

Patriarch's.

As the red-robed Elder saw the mixed emotions of the young elites there, he coldly said, "Those who walk the road of martial arts should aim high, but they shouldn't bite off more than they can chew! Every Great Elder of my Ancient Phoenix Clan is a heaven-shaking existence within the Realm of the Gods. Every totem stone they leave behind, even though it may be inferior to that of a Patriarch's, is more than enough for you to meditate upon. If you can thoroughly enlighten yourself with them, then you will reach a comprehension of Laws equal to a previous Elder! Isn't that enough for you!?" the red-robed Elder asked in a chilly voice.

However, all of the martial artists present were thinking otherwise. They only had three days to meditate on these totem stones; just how much could they comprehend in that period of time?

If the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones would be compared to gold ore while they were the gold diggers, then the amount of gold they could mine in three days would obviously be larger if it were from a bountiful gold mine rather than a barren one.

"Nuyan Ming, you choose first!" The red-robed Elder pointed at Lin Ming. "You must decide within two hours' time."

"Yes, Sir!" Lin Ming replied. Without further ado, he skipped past the Mortal and Earth Corridors, directly entering the Sky Corridor.

Seeing this, all the martial artists there were filled with envy. Although Huo Wenlong appeared calm, the truth was that he was feeling particularly nervous.

The Heaven Corridor had three totem stones, and these totem stones were also divided into those better ones and worse ones. Among them, there was one called the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. It had been left behind by the Ninth Patriarch of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. His nickname was Burning Heaven, and he had been one of the top 10 powerhouses throughout all of the Ancient Phoenix Clan's history. To take on such a nickname, his power could easily be imagined. And what was even rarer was that the Laws inherent to that totem stone were extremely suitable for Huo Wenlong. He had long desired to choose this totem stone, but if Lin Ming chosen it first, then Huo Wenlong would suffer a great loss.

Under everyone's gazes Lin Ming stepped into the Sky Corridor. The halls of Sky Corridor were 200 feet wide, three metal doors lined up on a wall. The first door had the image of a Phoenix Nirvana engraved onto it, along with two words – Crimson Divine. The second metal door had the engraved image of a Phoenix resting on a Parasol Tree, as well as two words – Sacred Flame, and the third door had the engraved image of a Phoenix flying through burning skies along with two words – Burning Heaven.

Lin Ming was startled just by the images carved upon these metal doors. These engravings, each had come from the hands of a peerless powerhouse. Otherwise, they wouldn't emit the energy of such formidable Laws.

Lin Ming decided to start with the Crimson Divine Totem Stone. He pushed open the metal door, entering the chamber. Behind the door was a square space, 200 feet in width and in length. There was nothing except for a 30-foot-high altar in the very center of the chamber. On top of this altar was a carved stone totem the size of a square foot. There were many complex engravings on this plain gray stone. Looking upon it for the first time, Lin Ming could feel a faint force field covering it, similar to the Asura force field. This force field and the totem stone both contained traces of lines and images combined in a perfect manner; it was immeasurably mystical.

“This Senior Crimson Divine was definitely a powerhouse with a force field. He fused his Fire Laws with his force field and carved them into this totem stone. If I can thoroughly comprehend it then it will be of great help to me, especially since I have a force field. And more than one at that.”

Lin Ming looked at this totem stone for two incense sticks' worth of time before reluctantly leaving the Crimson Divine chamber. He only had two hours; he couldn't stay in this chamber for too long.

The second chamber was the Sacred Flame Totem Stone. It was equally mystical, but it lacked the force field aspect. For this alone it was less suitable for Lin Ming than the Crimson Divine Totem Stone in the first room. After just an incense stick's worth of time he left this chamber to enter the third one. This was the chamber with the Burning Heaven Totem Stone.

This chamber was also 200 square feet, and the altar in the center

was similar. However, the totem stone on this altar was a deep red, and on it there seemed to be hundreds upon hundreds of small flames intertwining with each other. It looked quite ordinary at first, but after staring at it for a while, Lin Ming could see that these small flames were moving. Each and every one of these flames contained a different Concept. As the several hundred flames gathered together, they became burning skies that could seemingly scorch away the endless worlds!

“What a powerful aura...” Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up. He could feel that the aura contained within this totem stone faintly surpassed the last two.

“Perhaps this totem stone is the most valuable.” Lin Ming pondered for a moment, thinking about whether he wanted to choose the Crimson Divine Totem Stone or the Burning Heaven Totem Stone.

At this time, within Lin Ming’s spiritual sea, Demonshine’s drawling voice sounded out, “Lin Ming, I don’t understand the Fire Laws within this totem stone, but this Saint knows the name of Burning Heaven. He is a peak character even in the Realm of the Gods, someone who far surpassed the Demon Emperor! As for those other two people, this Saint has never heard of them.”

Lin Ming hesitated for a moment. “That sounds right, but... choosing a totem stone doesn’t depend on just how strong the person who engraved it was, but whether the contents of that totem stone suit the individual...”

Lin Ming meditated on this totem stone for half an hour. Then,

at that moment, he suddenly felt a faint throbbing feeling in the Heretical God Seed; it seemed as if the engravings on the Heretical God Seed seemed to grow.

“Mm?” Lin Ming was surprised. It was clear that the Heretical God Seed had an even higher fusion compatibility with this Burning Heaven Totem Stone!

The Heretical God Force was a cultivation method created by an ancient Evil God. A Supreme Elder from the Realm of the Gods had stumbled upon a massive lucky chance within the ancient ruins of this Evil God, thus obtaining the cultivation method manual. Afterwards, he had died before having enough time to thoroughly perceive it. From that point on, only Lin Ming was aware of the Heretical God Force.

As for who that Evil God was, Li Ming had no idea. But what he was sure about was that the Evil God was absolutely far more formidable than this Burning Heaven Senior. It was likely that the Evil God was an existence that stood at the highest peak of martial artists, a ‘True God’.

With such a person, the cultivation methods left behind likely approached the very source of all Laws to a near infinite degree. Since the Heaven Burning Stone Totem was able to affect the Heretical God Seed, that proved that the Heaven Burning Stone Totem approached the root of the Great Dao much more than the other two totem stones.

Compared to Lin Ming’s own judgement, he was by far more convinced due to the Heretical God Seed. Not to mention,

perceiving and understanding the process of how the Fire Laws and force field combined within the Crimson Divine Totem Stone was a very long process. It was by no means something done in a single step. He would have to meditate upon it for at least ten years, or perhaps even dozens of years to see any effect.

“I’ll choose that one then!”

Lin Ming made a preliminary decision. He estimated the time and found that he still had a bit more than an hour’s worth of time.

If it had taken him nearly an hour to look through three totem stones, then the others would have a much harder time, especially those martial artists who had to choose a totem stone from the Mortal Corridor. To find a suitable match among 20 totem stones, within two hours, would not be easy.

If their luck was bad, then it was likely they would regret the choice they made.

“I still have an hour, there’s no need to hurry. Since there’s no need to go to the Earth Corridor, I should go to the Chaos Corridor to have a look at what these totem stones forged in the primal forming chaos are like. I wonder if there’s anything special about the traces of source energy left within...”

As Lin Ming thought this, he headed to the Chaos Corridor.

Chapter 725 – Chaos Stone

The Chaos Corridor was at the very center of all four corridors. It was also the narrowest and the smallest of the four corridors and was only 150 feet wide.

This corridor had three chambers. The doors of these chambers weren't made from red metal but rather rocks with an extremely ancient appearance.

These rocks didn't have any engravings on them but they emitted a primal breath. Lin Ming was secretly startled.

“These should be ancient rocks formed at the very beginning of the universe. I wonder just how many countless years they've existed for.”

Lin Ming muttered to himself as he opened the stone door. A 100 square foot room presented itself in front of him. This entire chamber was covered with a light layer of black fog. As one looked deeper, one could see that this fog was actually somewhat similar to the black fog in the Eternal Demon Abyss; it was also formed from an incomparably rich accumulation of energy. However, this Chaos Chamber's black fog seemed to lack any sort of elemental attribute energy. Instead, it could be considered as 'void'.

In the center of the faint fog, there was an altar. This altar was made of black stone, and a foot long square stone was embedded right in its center. The traces of lines on this stone didn't seem as delicate and exquisite as Lin Ming had imagined. Instead, it looked

to be very rough. The textures were varied; some were deep, some were shallow, and there were even some areas that were broken off.

Lin Ming continued to look on but he didn't see anything special about this stone. It was apparent that the traces of source energy left within had already surpassed the scope of Lin Ming's understandings.

Legends said that during the forming of the universe, there was nothing but chaos origin energy. The trace lines on the chaos stone reflected the evolutionary process of the universe's source energy as it gradually transformed itself. This sort of chaos energy was also referred to as grandmist energy. Primeval entropy was chaos in itself.

Afterwards, this grandmist energy evolved, only then becoming the elemental energies of metal, wood, water, fire, earth, and all others. Thus, grandmist energy was considered the source of all energies.

As for martial artists, in the end, what they cultivated was energy. Whether it was body transformation, true essence, or demon essence, all of them were just different manifestations of energy.

To perceive the various Laws and Concepts through meditation, that was understanding the root rules for utilizing these different energies. Higher level combat skills such as force fields, will attacks, and even soul attacks, were all different forms and applications of energy. If one could thoroughly understand the

evolutionary rules of grandmist energy, then they could become aware of the very source of the Great Dao, thus becoming an existence within the Realm of the Gods with one of the deepest comprehension of Laws and Concepts.

“Lin Ming, this thing isn’t something that the average person can understand. Not to mention that this Saint is just a wisp of a soul, but even if this Saint’s complete soul was here, or even if this Saint’s complete body was here, I would still find this thing incomprehensible.”

Demonshine rarely admitted his own weaknesses. In truth, as a demon familiar, his perception was never that great to begin with.

However, Lin Ming didn’t seem to hear Demonshine’s words. He sat there in meditation, gazing upon the traces left behind on this chaos stone from the forming universe. For a long time, he sat there without uttering a single word.

“How is it?” Demonshine asked before immediately shutting up. He didn’t know if Lin Ming had managed to comprehend anything.

Within Lin Ming’s boundary, the chances of him comprehending the source Laws from this chaos stone were near zero. However, miracles did happen.

Lin Ming meditated for an entire incense stick worth of time. Finally, he closed his eyes and slowly said, “I am familiar with these lines. It feels like I’ve seen them somewhere before.”

“Mm? That’s impossible...”

“I really have seen it, it’s just that I can’t remember...” Lin Ming’s first thoughts were of the Eternal Demon Abyss. Within the Eternal Demon Abyss, he had encountered a variety of chaotic scenarios and had seen many things. But, as he thought about it, nothing reminded him of this.

Just where had he seen this before?

“Lin Ming, then how will you choose? Will you choose this chaos stone or the Burning Heaven Totem Stone?” Demonshine asked.

“I will choose the Burning Heaven Totem Stone.” Lin Ming decided to give up on the chaos stone. The Laws and principles contained within the chaos stone were simply far too mystical for the current him. Even if there was a familiar feeling of déjà vu from the chaos stone, it wasn’t enough for him to grasp any chance of successfully perceiving it. If that was the case, then it was better for him to go with the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. With the support of the Heretical God Seed, perceiving the Burning Heaven Totem Stone should be much more beneficial.”

Thinking like this, Lin Ming left the hall of corridors.

“You’ve chosen?” The red-robed Elder asked, “You still have half an hour. If you haven’t decided yet then you may continue looking.”

“Reporting to Senior, this junior has already chosen...” Lin Ming bowed. These words caused Huo Wenlong’s heart to tighten. The young red dressed woman next to him, Huo Yu, was also tense.

Besides Lin Ming, these two people had the best results from the test. Huo Wenlong’s comprehension of Laws was evaluated at the first-level B-grade, and Huo Yu was evaluated as a first-level C-grade.

Huo Wenlong was aiming for the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. Of the three totem stones in the Sky Corridor, it was the most valuable one. As for Huo Yu, she decided to choose the Crimson Divine Totem Stone. Its preciousness was only inferior to that of the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. Not just that, but the force field fused within it was very important for her. Huo Yu also had a kind of force field so this Crimson Divine Totem Stone would be very suitable for her. As long as Lin Ming didn’t choose the Crimson Totem Stone then Huo Wenlong definitely wouldn’t choose it either. This was because even if Huo Wenlong’s talent was higher, he didn’t have a force field.

“Mm, what’s your choice?” The red-robed Elder asked.

Lin Ming took a deep breath. He slowly and clearly said, “The Burning Heaven Totem Stone!”

As Lin Ming spoke, Huo Yu let out a sigh of relief. As for Huo Wenlong, his body stiffened and his complexion became extremely ugly.

The Burning Heaven Totem Stone! That choice just happened to collide with Huo Wenlong's!

Damn!

Huo Wenlong grit his teeth. In truth, he had already been expecting this. The Burning Heaven Totem Stone was the most valuable of the three totem stones in the Sky Corridor. Lin Ming had the highest chances of choosing that one.

However, expectations were different from reality. With the facts laid right in front of him, he felt a bit depressed. To not be able to choose the Burning Heaven Totem Stone now would greatly impact him.

“Mm.” The red-robed Elder nodded. Lin Ming had made a good choice. The Burning Heaven Totem Stone was the most valuable of the three totem stones in the Sky Corridor, and even when compared to the top totem stones within the Ancient Phoenix Clan smelting trial sites in the Realm of the Gods, it wasn't too far off.

The red-robed Elder recorded Lin Ming's choice onto a jade slip and said, “Onto the next person. Huo Wenlong, it's your turn to choose.”

“I understand.” Huo Wenlong began walking forwards. Although he seemed calm on the surface, his heart was pained as if his own mother had died.

After a little less than an hour of time, Huo Wenlong came out and said, “I choose the Sacred Flame Totem Stone.”

The Sacred Flame Totem Stone was slightly worse than the Crimson Divine Totem Stone. However, since Huo Wenlong didn't possess a force field ability, the Crimson Divine Totem Stone wasn't well suited for him, thus he could only make this choice.

Huo Yu let out a light sigh of relief. She quickly power walked towards the Sky Corridor as if she were afraid that someone would steal away her Crimson Divine Totem Stone.

After an incense stick of time, Huo Yu came out. “Sir, I choose the Crimson Divine Totem Stone.”

After Huo Yu, Huo Ping and the rest all chose their own totem stones from the Earth Corridor. As for the martial artists of the lower mortal realms, most of them had to choose from the Mortal Corridor.

This was a troublesome decision for them. To choose an appropriate totem stone from over 20 choices, was not a simple matter at all. Many people didn't have the chance to carefully consider their choice, thus there were some that chose inappropriate ones.

“Alright. Everyone may go close up in training now. You have three days of time. Three days from now, no matter how much you have perceived you must stop. Afterwards, I will naturally assess your results. Those who pass will obtain another chance to

enlighten themselves. As for everyone else, they have failed the trial!

In the king level smelting trial, defeat didn't mean you would die. Rather, you would simply be eliminated from the first stage, completely losing any chance of advancing to the second stage of the king level smelting trial.

After the smelting trial began, Lin Ming, Huo Wenlong, and Huo Yu all went towards the Sky Corridor. After a moment of silence, Huo Wenlong walked into the Sacred Flame training chamber without another word, while Lin Ming entered the Burning Heaven training chamber.

These three days would be the key to success or failure.

Lin Ming had already seen the lines on the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. They were like hundreds of tiny flames, none of them the same, but all of them contained deep and profound mysteries.

Lin Ming looked carefully and discovered that when any two random flames combined together, there would be a change. If three flames joined together, there would be another change. Four... five... six, the more flames that gathered, the more changes there were and every flame also had a different change. If several hundred flames gathered together then the possibilities were endless.

“Patriarch Burning Heaven is truly worthy of a being called one

of the 10 greatest powerhouses of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. I only have three days to look at this totem stone, but thoroughly perceiving it in this time period is simply impossible. I shouldn't bite off more than I can chew. I'll choose the smallest flame line and try to comprehend the simple changes there first."

As Lin Ming thought of this, he entered into the ethereal martial intent, completely immersing himself into gaining insights.

In this state of fascination, the small flame seemed to turn into a fiery spear. As the spear swayed to the beat of the flames, the chilling spear point seemed to launch wave after wave of offensive attacks.

Unconsciously, the subtle totem engravings on Lin Ming's Heretical God Seed began to change, becoming increasingly clear and profound.

After entering into the ethereal martial intent, Lin Ming wasn't able to sense the passage of time. When the totem engravings on the Heretical God Seed seemed to enter into a new stage, the metal door to Lin Ming's training chamber suddenly burst open.

A stern voice sounded out, "Time is up. Everyone must exit now.

Hu -!

Lin Ming had been awakened from his meditative state, and the incomplete enlightenment had also been interrupted.

“Three days already?”

Lin Ming was surprised. He felt as if even one hour hadn't passed.

What a pity! It would have been perfect if he had a few more days. As Lin Ming was thinking, he found that the totem engravings on the Heretical God Seed had turned into a circle with a faint flow of light spinning around it. It was clearly an improvement over the previous totem image.

“With these three days along with having gazed upon the Ancient Phoenix Testament, my comprehension of fire-attribute Laws has been considerably enhanced. I wonder just what degree my Concept of Fire has reached now...”

Lin Ming very much wished to find someone skilled in the Concept of Fire to compete with. At this moment, a voice sounded out once more.

“Everyone, meet outside the hall of corridors!”

Lin Ming recalled what was happening as he walked towards the main hall. Outside, he could see that many people were gathering, expressions of confusion on their faces as if they had awoken from a drunken stupor. They all had their eyebrows knitted together, apparently trying to estimate the harvests they had made.

The red-robed Elder from before was already waiting here. He said, “You all have ten days to go back and digest your harvests so far. Afterwards, you will gather back here. I will continue with the test. Those who do not pass will be eliminated!”

Chapter 726 – God Transforming Mirror

With the help of a guide, Lin Ming arrived at the assigned dwelling.

“Sir Nuyan, this is your basic equipment.” The guide passed Lin Ming a spatial ring.

As Lin Ming sunk his consciousness within, he saw a simple 10-foot-long wooden case, a set of red clothes, and red boots.

This wooden case was...

Lin Ming’s eyes brightened. He had been using a spear for so many years that he didn’t even need to open the box to tell that there was a spear within this case!

It was purely intuition.

Lin Ming enthusiastically opened the case and a long fiery-red spear appeared under Lin Ming’s eyes. The spear edge was a foot long and it shone brightly, with a chilling cold. The spear shaft was made from an unknown metal; it was exceedingly tough, yet flexible at the same time.

All sorts of runes and lines were engraved on the barrel of the spear. These patterns undoubtedly contained the power of Fire Laws.

This was... a medium-grade heaven-step treasure?

Or was this a high-grade heaven-step treasure?

Lin Ming's eyes shone. He had been using a heaven-step white spear acquired from a High Lord of Skysplit Tower; he didn't even know what its name was. Beside its toughness, there was no benefit to wielding that white spear. It wasn't like the Purple Comet Spear, able to increase the power of his thunderfire abilities. It was extremely inconvenient for him.

But now, this red spear in front of him was obviously useful for enhancing the power of fire. Moreover, it was a treasure ranked even higher!

“What rank is this treasure?” Lin Ming asked.

Up until now he only had a few rare encounters with anything above low-grade heaven-step treasures, so he didn't have much of an understanding toward this.

The guide said, “Sir, this is a medium-grade heaven-step treasure. But in mere terms of toughness, it's on equal standing with a high-grade heaven-step treasure. It is a standard service weapon that my Timeworn Phoenix City issues to new talents. If you don't use the spear, then you may apply for a replacement weapon.”

Within the Ancient Phoenix Clan, because there were many

people who rode Vermillion Birds in battle, long pole-type weapons were the most commonly used. This was different from the inheritance of Divine Phoenix Island. When Lin Ming was going through the qualification test for the king-level smelting trial, many of the phantom matches was facing were also using spears.

“This spear is actually only a standard service weapon...”

Lin Ming was speechless. This was a spear that every trial challenger who was participating in the king-level smelting trial would receive. It seemed that within the Realm of the Gods, heaven-step treasures were only considered common garbage.

This was also reasonable. Within the Sky Spill Continent, even a Life Destruction martial artist like Xuan Wuji was able to acquire a heaven-step treasure, much less a Divine Sea master. There was no need to even mention the Realm of the Gods. Here, powerhouses were most likely using Saint artifacts, or even higher quality weapons.

Lin Ming took the red spear in his hand and casually shook it. The spear shaft trembled with a terrifying contained strength.

“What a great spear! In terms of resources, martial artists from the lower realms are just like little babies from the slums; they are simply unable to compare with martial artists from the Realm of the Gods.”

Besides the long spear, the standard issued clothes were also top

quality goods. Once worn, they felt as airy as silk. Having been woven from divine fire silk, they were actually immune to fire and water and were also extremely resistant. Even with a normal treasure one would find it difficult to slice through them. In Timeworn Phoenix City, it was light and practical – perfect for talents to use in training.

“Sir, if you please. Your room is right ahead.” The guide bowed.

Lin Ming looked up. In front of him was a door leading to a separate miniature dimension.

In Timeworn Phoenix City, every young elite’s residence was their own dimension. The advantage of this was that once the door was closed, the room would then become an absolute isolated space, so that the martial artist inside would not be interrupted during their training time.

After settling into this dimension, Lin Ming saw a bookshelf filled with all sorts of jade slips, both large and small. He casually picked one up and swept his perception through it. These were actually fire-attribute law cultivation methods, advisory letters, and ancient texts. These jade slips were mostly high-grade cultivation method manuals collected by powerhouses of the Ancient Phoenix Clan from various regions. They were given to trial challengers, mainly for them to use as a reference in their own training.

Lin Ming looked through a few jade slips. Then, he sat down and immersed himself in perceiving insights into the Laws and Concepts he had gained earlier.

The totem symbol atop Heretical God Seed was as small as a grain of rice. However, Lin Ming could actually make out every single line and change in texture on its surface. These traces were all enlarged tens of thousands of times within Lin Ming's vision, each and every simple mysterious pattern appearing defined in his eyes.

Meditating on the totem engraving on the Heretical God Seed was much more beneficial and much easier than meditating on the Burning Heaven Totem Stone.

Lin Ming could already faintly feel that the affinity the Heretical God Seed held towards the Concept of Fire had exceeded that of the Concept of Thunder.

Amongst the various major Concepts, ones like the Concepts of Space and Time, the Concept of Eternity, the Concept of Annihilation, and other such Concepts were much more abstract and elusive, and were somewhat more formidable than others. However, the truth was that once one thoroughly comprehended the source of a Concept, and reached the pinnacle of comprehension with it, then even with one like the Concept of Fire one could still achieve heaven-shaking results and become a king of their generation.

Hu – !

Lin Ming stretched out his palm and a fiery flame-spear appeared in his hand, its energy quickly solidifying. In the next moment, the flame spear completely condensed into a solid spear. The spear

point and shaft both gleamed with a metallic luster, just as if they had been cast from red metal.

“After inscribing the flame totem, the Heretical God Seed within me has also evolved.” Lin Ming felt his heart shining with a brilliant fighting spirit. He wanted to test his strength in battle and see just how much progress his Concept of Fire had made.

At that moment, a strict voice suddenly rang out in the dimension. “Ten days have passed. Everyone gather at the Southern City Temple. The test will now begin!”

“The test is finally starting.” Lin Ming’s eyes flashed with a sharp light. The king-level smelting trial tests were extremely severe. The first test would eliminate 30-40% of the martial artists. In the future, tests would only become more and more difficult. Ultimately, only a tiny number of people would make it through the trials.

Lin Ming walked towards the Southern City Temple. Here, the red-robed Elder responsible for directing the test was already waiting.

“Come with me.”

After everyone had gathered, the red-robed Elder led everyone to a separate chamber. Here, there was a massive crystal mirror. The mirror was over 100 feet high and was hundreds of feet wide. It spread across an entire wall.

“This is the God Transforming Mirror. It is an illusory magic array used for tests. You only need to stand in front of the God Transforming Mirror and touch it in order to start the test. Within the God Transforming Mirror there are nine different shifting realms. With your current strength, lasting in the first shifting phase for a quarter of an hour will qualify as passing, and lasting for half an hour will be considered outstanding. Those who fail will need to take the transmission array and leave the smelting trial site,” the red-robed Elder indifferently said.

Hearing this, the heroic young elites became somewhat nervous. If they had a poor performance then there was the fear of being eliminated. If they had a good performance then they could only hope to make progress for even better results. For instance, Huo Wenlong, Huo Yu and the others all carried a great pressure on their backs. Their goal was not only to pass the smelting trial, but also to compete with Lin Ming and overshadow him.

“We shall start from the trial challengers of the Mortal Corridor. I will call your name to step forward and start the test. Sheng Gonglu, Chi Hu....”

The red-robed Elder continuously called out the names of four people. As these four people stood in front of the God Transforming Mirror, all of them were lurching with unease.

They followed the red-robed Elder’s instructors and reached out their hands to touch the God Transforming Mirror. In the next moment, all of them fell into a strange trance-like state, as if they were completely isolated from the outside world....

Chapter 727 – The Red Woman

There were nine shifting realms within the God Transforming Mirror. But, none of the martial artists present knew just what this meant.

The martial artists from the lower realms looked at the four trial challengers standing in front of the God Transforming Mirror, a disturbed and anxious expression crossing their faces. It wasn't an exaggeration to say that this test was related to lives.

If they passed, they could continue through the smelting trial and even have a chance at approaching the Realm of the Gods.

If they failed then they would be eliminated. In the future, they would be stuck at the Divine Sea realm, only kings of the lower realms.

After reaching Timeworn Phoenix City and experiencing the limitless possibilities of the Realm of the Gods, none of them were willing to give up this chance. This was similar to a mortal country bumpkin visiting the royal capital and then not wishing to return to the countryside. After experience all that the capital had to offer, they would rather work hard there instead of returning home to become rich farmers.

Time passed a minute, a second at a time. After an incense stick of time passed, two of the four trial challengers standing in front of the God Transforming Mirror suddenly shook, drawing back with pale expressions.

The red-robed Elder indifferently waved his hand, “The two of you...fail!”

They had failed!

The two young martial artists were stricken. In their own worlds, they were peak Emperor level talents that stood above all others. But now, after arriving at the smelting trial of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, the so-called ‘Emperor level talents’ of the lower realms were now nothing more than a joke. Dropping from the top to the bottom, this left a horrible taste in their mouths!

After another incense stick of time passed, the other two trial challengers also gave a pained cough as their connection with the God Transforming Mirror was cut off. At this time, there was still a bit of time before it reached the required quarter hour.

“The two of you also fail!” The red-robed Elder mercilessly said.

“This test is too difficult!” All of the present martial artists, especially those that came from the Mortal Corridor, were becoming increasingly nervous.

At this time, the red-robed Elder coldly snorted and said, “Crossing the test of the God Transforming Mirror is not difficult. If you failed, then that only proves that you have a tenuous grasp of Concepts and Laws and that your cultivation is also far too lacking. There is no one else to blame but yourselves!”

“The God Transforming Mirror smelting trial has nine different shifting Concepts. If you can persist through the first one for just a quarter of an hour then you have passed. Half an hour is an outstanding result. Every year, over 60% of the trial challengers can pass the first test but less than 10% can achieve an outstanding result. As for those that can last three hours or even pass through the first Concept, that might not even appear once in 50 years.”

“Pass through the first Concept?” The four trial challengers who had just failed felt their hearts jump. The four of them had personally experienced just how terrifying the Concepts of the first level were, and yet someone who was in their twenties could still pass through it in a single go? Was that even humanly possible?

“Now then... Yellowright Min, Feng Xiaotian...” The red-robed Elder began to list out the names of four more people.

“Good luck in there.” Lin Ming cheered Yellowright Min on. He had a good impression of this fellow.

“Mm!” Yellowright Min pumped his fists, his inner tension palpable.

The four eliminated martial artists had come from the Mortal Corridor. As martial artists that could only enter the Mortal Corridor, their strengths weren't too great to begin with, so the chances of them being eliminated here were also correspondingly high.

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At this time, within the very center of Timeworn Phoenix City, there was a grand tower that stood nine levels high. At the highest balcony of the tower, there was a woman dressed in red, looking down over the entire Timeworn Phoenix City.

After some time, the red dressed woman turned around. In front of her, the great doors had opened and a tall man in a cloak strode in. On his shoulders there was a great flaming bird that looked like a red parrot; it was obviously this old man's contract beast.

"Great Elder, you seem to have plenty of free time, to come and visit me here." The red dressed woman tranquilly spoke as she faintly smiled.

"Haha, I was just finishing some minor errands. It just so happens that the new little children have come into the city and are participating in their first test. Do you have any interest in going to take a look?" The tall old man laughed, his voice vibrant and rich with life.

The red dressed woman smiled and shook her head, "There's far too a low a chance that any of those children will grow up into someone useful. There's no reason to go fuss over them. If there's an exception, then the Council of Elders will naturally send over a battle array disc."

Every few years, Timeworn Phoenix City would select a batch of extraordinary youths from the countless worlds. In all fairness,

because the Ancient Phoenix Clan of the lower realms had passed through tens of thousands or even hundreds of thousands of years of dilution, their bloodline purity was far inferior to the Ancient Phoenix Clan within the Realm of the Gods. Thus, the chances of a true genius arising from that pack of youths were very small.

It was certainly easy for those young elites to reach the Divine Sea, but going any further than that would not be easy. As for entering the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan and joining another family clan there, the chances were simply far too low.

“Hehe, you’re not wrong, but there is an exception this time. There’s a little boy called Nuyan Ming whose fire compatibility is even higher than yours used to be!”

“Oh? Really!?” The red dressed woman’s eyebrows shot up. “Is he from the lower realms?”

According to the traditions of the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan, if a genius from the Realm of the Gods had such a high compatibility with fire then they would have already been sent to the smelting trial site in the Realm of the Gods. It was impossible for them to be sent to Timeworn Phoenix City which was situated in the lower realms.

“Of course it’s real. He is indeed from the lower realms. It is extremely rare for a martial artist from the lower realms to have such a high compatibility. But... unfortunately, his comprehension of the Laws is too poor. When he gazed upon the Ancient Phoenix Testament it took him a full half incense stick of time before he was able to fuse with the Laws.” The tall old man said as he shook

his head in regret. A martial artist's perception represented their ability to comprehend the Laws; it was often more important than one's degree of compatibility.

"Half an incense stick of time?" The red dressed woman was bewildered. That result was just too poor. Even the most basic child from the Realm of the Gods Phoenix Clan would have such a result.

"That's too bad." The red dressed woman lamented. One's compatibility with fire and ability to comprehend Fire Laws had little to do with each other. Compatibility looked at one's physique, but comprehension of Laws looked at a martial artist's soul force and perception. If their compatibility was high but their perception was low, it was still a waste. The further one walked down the road of martial arts, the more emphasis there was on the soul, will, battle spirit, perception, and other such factors.

"That's right, but we should look at this little fellow first. If his perception is too poor and there's no value in training him then that's fine too. But, if he's worthy of some help, then we can wait until he reaches the Divine Sea and then recommend him to join the main clan within the Realm of the Gods."

"Mm, let's go." The red dressed woman said. As she spoke, the space in front of her easily split apart, revealing a black hole in the void, and the two of them stepped inside...

.....

In the testing hall, before the God Transforming Mirror, Yellowright Min gave a stuffy cough as he stepped back, his face white.

Without bothering with this minor injury, he spun around to look at an hourglass in the corner of the room. There, the sand within the hourglass indicated that a quarter of an hour had passed!

“Yellowright Min, pass!”

The red-robed Elder blankly exclaimed.

Yellowright Min was overjoyed. He punched the air as he laughed, “Haha, I just managed to pass, what great luck!”

“Great luck? That might not be true.” As Yellowright Min was celebrating, a rude and sobering voice suddenly sounded out. The one who spoke was Huo Ping, one of the martial artists from the Realm of the Gods’ Huo Clan. “There is more than one test in Timeworn Phoenix City. Just because you passed this time doesn’t mean you won’t be eliminated in the next one.”

Huo Ping poured cold water all over Yellowright Min’s parade. Yellowright Min’s face sunk, his expression becoming gloomy and his originally cheery demeanor suddenly reduced by half.

What Huo Ping said was true. But still, to a lower realm martial artist like Yellowright Min, every single step they took was always

good. If he could obtain some insights then that was a major harvest for him. It would have an inestimable impact as he continued to walk his path of martial arts.

“Humph, if you had any skill then you wouldn’t have come to Timeworn Phoenix City. How was it like being kicked out from the Realm of the Gods?” Yellowright Min venomously lashed back. As Huo Ping heard this, his expression immediately turned ugly.

After Yellowright Min, the other martial artists from the Mortal Corridor completed their own tests one after another. The final elimination rate for them was around 80%.

Next up were those from the Earth Corridor. The heroic youths from the Earth Corridor were much stronger. Besides one, everyone else passed.

Especially those outstanding youths from the Realm of the Gods; their results were even better.

When Huo Ping drew back from the God Transforming Mirror, all blood drained from his face, the red-robed Elder announced his result, “A total of over half an hour. An outstanding result!”

This was the first outstanding result. As Huo Ping stepped back from the God Transforming Mirror, he glanced over at the hourglass and then looked over at Yellowright Min, his face filled with satisfaction. Even though he wasn’t considered too good within the Realm of the Gods, he could still look down on the lower realm martial artists in Timeworn Phoenix City.

As for Yellowright Min, his ability was inferior so there was nothing he could say.

After Huo Ping, two other martial artists from the Realm of the Gods also obtained an outstanding result. As for the Sky Corridor's Huo Yu, she lasted for nearly forty minutes, breaking the current record.

At this time, only two people still hadn't been tested. They were Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong.

Everyone's eyes focused on them.

Huo Wenlong looked at Lin Ming and smiled, "Brother Nuyan, how about we go together?"

"Alright."

Lin Ming calmly nodded. He wasn't sure what sort of test lay within the God Transforming Mirror. In terms of just the comprehension of Law, he didn't have full assurance that he could defeat Huo Wenlong. Although the Heretical God Seed was powerful, the time that Lin Ming had been comprehending the Fire Laws was simply too short.

Lin Ming stepped in front of the God Transforming Mirror. Stretching out a hand, he touched the surface of the mirror. Then, he immediately entered into a strange trance....

Everyone's vision remained on Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong. No one knew that in the space outside of this hall, there were also two pairs of invisible eyes paying attention to Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong. These two pairs of eyes belonged to the tall old man and the red dressed woman that had been talking atop the Nine Layer Tower in the center of the city. Both of them were high level figures within Timeworn Phoenix City.

“Nuyan Ming, that's him?” The red dressed woman's voice echoed in the void.

“Mm... that's him...” The old man nodded.

“What a faint Ancient Phoenix bloodline. Moreover, it seems that it was transplanted during the Houtian realm. If I'm not wrong, hasn't the Nuyan Family perished? Where did this Nuyan Ming come from?”

Although the Ancient Phoenix Clan had countless branches, the red dressed woman had still completely memorized each and every one of them. The Nuyan Family had been exterminated 100,000 years ago.

“I've already asked the Nuyan Family Protector about him. After the Nuyan Family was exterminated, the ruins of their family were accidentally obtained by a mortal sect within the Sky Spill Continent. Afterwards, it was used to establish a sect called Divine Phoenix Island. This sect has taken the Vermillion Bird and Blue Luan as their totem. As for Nuyan Ming, he was a disciple of Divine

Phoenix Island. Because of his outstanding talent, he was able to participate and ultimately complete the general level smelting trial. After the Temple Spirit saw that he had made excellent results throughout, he was gifted a single drop of Ancient Phoenix blood.”

Chapter 728 – The First Concept – Sea of Burning Fire

“I see... so that’s how it is. Then it seems this Nuyan Ming can also be considered an outer member of my Ancient Phoenix Clan.”

The red dressed woman’s shadowy voice resonated through the void. The Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan was an incomparably massive sect. Within the three thousand boundless worlds, there were also countless branches and sub-branches.

A sect like Divine Phoenix Island, which took the phoenix and its closely related Saint Beasts as its totem, could just barely be counted as one of the followers and believers of the Ancient Phoenix Clan.

Some of these countless sects in the lower realms were fifth-grade sects or Holy Lands. Occasionally, there were top talents among these sects that had the qualifications to be chosen by the true Ancient Phoenix Clan, transplanting a part of their bloodline and becoming an outer member of the Ancient Phoenix Clan.

The Ancient Phoenix Clan had developed to the point where there were millions of small and large sects that comprised it. With the three great family clans within the Realm of the Gods added on, it was hard to estimate just how many members the Ancient Phoenix Clan had. The clan included humans, Giant Demons, Ferals, Fey, and many other races.

In this era, familial bloodlines no longer mattered. There was

only a single requirement for being a member of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, and that was whether or not they had the Ancient Phoenix bloodline within their bodies.

Thus, Lin Ming's origins had no effect on whether he was considered part of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. Of course, as a martial artist from the lower realms, if Lin Ming entered the Realm of the Gods in the future, then against those at the same level of strength, he would have fewer resources than those from the three great family clans.

.....

After entering the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming felt as if he had fallen through a layer of water. There was a brief scalding hot feeling, and in the next moment, he had entered into a vast red space.

This was a world of burning flames, nothing but endless infernos in a sea of fire. Scarlet plumes rose thousands of feet high, impacting the heavens. The entire sky was filled with red clouds. It was as if the once blue sky had been roasted red by the flames.

Hot!

It was too hot!

This was Lin Ming's first and foremost reaction. Every breath he took felt as if he was sucking flames into his lungs. If a common

mortal were to appear here, he would have been charred to death long ago.

At this time, red clouds roiled in the skies. These strange movements reflected in Lin Ming's pupils, just like the traces of fire energy from the Ancient Phoenix Testament. This scene caused Lin Ming's eyes to shine brightly. So this was the God Transforming Mirror!

The God Transforming Mirror, the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones, and the Ancient Phoenix Testament were similar in essence. The Ancient Phoenix Testament and the Burning Heaven Totem Stone were both objects that recorded the operating rules of Flame Laws and the energy within them, allowing a martial artist to enlighten themselves through meditation. But, the God Transforming Mirror expanded on these energy operating rules through the use of an illusory magic array. A martial artist could place themselves within and directly experiences the changes within the fire energy themselves.

If the three days before were Lin Ming meditating on the Burning Heaven Stone, then this could be considered as having entered the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. He was now directly withstanding a baptism within a violent storm of energy.

If he could withstand it, live through it, then that proved that his perception was good, enough to pass.

Ho -!

A wave of heat passed through him. Lin Ming's clothes, which were supposed to be nearly invulnerable to water and fire, actually started to burn a little. This proved that the temperature was extremely high.

The Ancient Phoenix Clan had a total of nine Fire Concepts. Correspondingly, the God Transforming Mirror also had nine realms. And, the first shifting Concept was... Burning Heat!

Burning heat was the very fundamental foundation. If one could withstand this Concept, then they could finally be considered as truly have stepped through the door of the true Concept of Fire.

The temperature rose higher and higher. Lin Ming had no choice but to revolve his bodily true essence protection to the limit as well as simultaneously activating the Asura force field to surround his entire body. The Asura force field was a force field domain that could suppress all types of energy. Naturally, it was also able to suppress these burning hot flames. However, as Lin Ming suppressed this heat, he only felt the surrounding burning heat around him suddenly soar by a massive degree!

Hu hu hu!

Lin Ming's true essence was rapidly consumed and even then the surrounding temperatures continued to shoot up. If this continued for much longer then he wouldn't be able to hold on.

"I'm stupid. This is a test of my understandings towards the Concept of Fire, not whether or not I have the power to withstand

it. Ignoring the fire and just resisting against it is obviously not an option. I must act according to my understanding of the Burning Heaven Totem Stone and adapt to this sea of fire.”

As Lin Ming thought this, he took a deep breath and resolutely withdrew the protection of his bodily true essence and the Asura force field. For a time, the oppressive waves of heat pushed up against Lin Ming like a waterfall!

Ho!

Lin Ming’s fire resistant clothes melted away! He could even hear the sound of his own skin baking to a tender crisp.

Soon after, Lin Ming was left completely naked. With a cracking sound, his spatial ring was also charred black by the purging fires.

Of course, this was only a world of illusion. Lin Ming’s true body was standing perfectly still and unharmed outside of the God Transforming Mirror.

The vast and endless power of fire poured through Lin Ming’s acupoints, crazily raging through his meridians and flushing towards his bones, organs, and limbs. If his comprehension of the Concept of Fire was too poor, then this fire would have charred all his organs to ashes already.

In such a terrifying rush of heat, Lin Ming’s mind was as still as ice. His mind touched upon the Heretical God Seed and the tiny

flame totem on it suddenly began to shine with a dazzling light. With a clear sound, the massive power of fire within Lin Ming's body began to be sucked into the Heretical God Seed, causing the lines of energy on the Heretical God Seed to start spinning around.

These lines of energy only had a total surface area the size of a grain of rice. But, the structures were extremely complex and exquisite. It was like a bottomless pit was born within it, constantly and wantonly devouring the power of fire, ensuring that none of Lin Ming's organs would be injured.

In this state, Lin Ming felt the energy within his body blow up like a balloon!

.....

Outside of the God Transforming Mirror, half an hour had quietly passed.

All of the martial artists outside were focused on Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong. Half an hour was already an 'outstanding' grade result. Nobody thought that Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong would have failed at this point. With their strength, lasting less than half an hour would have been strange instead.

The truly difficult part lay ahead. In the first Concept world, the temperature would continue to rise. But, a martial artists ability to absorb and control fire energy was limited. Once they couldn't last any further, they would be incinerated by the sea of flames.

Before, Huo Yu had only managed to last forty minutes. As for someone that could last three quarter hours, that was something that rarely happened even in 50 years.

50 years seemed like a long time, but Timeworn Phoenix City had over a million worlds to choose from, and that wasn't even including the Realm of the Gods. The pure volume of talents that passed through here in 50 years of time was horrifying.

"I wonder if Lin Ming will last until the end, or if it will be Huo Wenlong." The surrounding martial artists began murmuring.

"Of course it will be Huo Wenlong. Lin Ming has a high compatibility with fire, but this test looks at one's comprehension of Laws." A Realm of the Gods martial artist said.

"That's not necessarily true. The higher your fire compatibility is, the greater the temperatures your body can withstand, and the more power of fire you can withstand too. The one to last until the end might be Lin Ming!" A lower realms martial artist retorted. As a fellow martial artist from the lower realms, he naturally sided with Lin Ming.

This was Huo Wenlong and Lin Ming's first battle; it would relate to their future achievements!

In the void, the red dressed woman and the old man had anticipated this sort of competition. When a martial artist stepped foot on the road of martial arts and walked towards the peak, they would inevitably have to march over the bodies of all the losers

that fell beneath them.

At this time, within the world of the God Transforming Mirror, Huo Wenlong was fluttering like a wisp of silk in a blazing red storm. The power of Burning Heat rushed towards him. Half of this energy was rerouted by an invisible power while the other half entered him.

Using this method of diverting the energy, it meant that Huo Wenlong would only need to withstand half of the fire energy.

Huu... huu... hu...

As heat wave after heat wave got partially deflected by Huo Wenlong, he continued to remain calm throughout without the slightest sense of strain.

He was confident he would win this battle. This was because when he was in the Realm of the Gods, he had already experienced the God Transforming Mirror. This method of diverting the power of fire was also a very high level legacy of his clan; it wasn't something the average person could learn. Not even Huo Yu could do it, much less someone like Lin Ming.

Although this method of extending the time he stayed in here might seem a bit suspicious, the world only cared about heroes that won; results were far more important than the means. Then again, this method of diverting, from another viewpoint, only proved how thoroughly Huo Wenlong understood the Laws of Fire.

“Lin Ming, I’ve already won. I will establish my superiority to you here and now. As long as you don’t catch up to me too much, I will take first place in this smelting trial!”

Meanwhile, on another side of the God Transforming Mirror, the fire energy within Lin Ming’s body had risen to a terrifying degree. Because the power of fire was gathering towards Lin Ming and the Heretical God Seed was accumulating all of it within itself, the temperature within Lin Ming’s body was even higher than the temperature outside.

Lin Ming kept his eyes closed this entire time. His perception was always focused on the red clouds that surged above him, as he constantly attempted to understand the Laws that governed the revolution of energy in this world.

This world took the most basic revolution of fire as its fundamental Law. As Lin Ming was withstanding the baptism of fire, he was beginning to understand just how to break through the Concept of the God Transforming Mirror’s first level!

As long as he could gather enough energy within his body, he could use his own bloodline as a guide and fuse the Laws and Concepts of Fire and then detonate all of that energy within himself. This energy would scatter away, in turn burning down the sea of fire instead. This would allow him to break through the first Concept, passing the first trial of the God Transforming Mirror.

But to a normal martial artist, they wouldn’t be able to gather enough of the fire energy within this burning heat world before their body could no longer withstand it. Even if their Ancient

Phoenix bloodline was much purer and denser than Lin Ming's, or their understanding of Concepts and Laws were greater than Lin Ming's, they still wouldn't be able to burn away this world.

But to Lin Ming, this was not a problem, because he had the Heretical God Seed within him. The power of fire that he could withstand far outstripped the average martial artist.

Lin Ming's body was completely filled with the power of fire. The Heretical God Seed was just like a miniature sun as it emitted blinding rays of golden light. On the surface of the Heretical God Seed, the engravings of flames became even brighter!

The energy had already reached 95% capacity!

Then, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, climbing without end!

Lin Ming gritted his teeth. The Heretical God Seed was like a storm within him; it could blow apart at any time!

Outside of the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming's body began trembling. Blue veins stuck out from his body like wriggling worms and great beads of sweat dripped down his forehead.

"Lin Ming, it seems he... might not be able to last much longer?" Some martial artists noticed the changes in Lin Ming's appearance. Compared to Lin Ming, Huo Wenlong seemed much more at ease. His breath was even and there wasn't the slightest bit of sweat on his forehead.

Looking at the hourglass, there was still some sand left until the three quarter hour mark.

“It’s only been around two and a half quarter hours of time yet Lin Ming seems as if he had reached his limit. If this continues he won’t be able to last for three quarter hours of time.” Some martial artists began talking amongst themselves. But, in the great hall, the red-robed Elder’s eyes actually shrank. He looked at Lin Ming, a curious light in his eyes...

Chapter 729 – Breaking Through the First World

Time passed slowly. As Lin Ming stood before the Celestial Shifting Mirror, his fists were tightly clenched together, and the blood vessels on his arms were pumped up as if they could burst apart at any second.

All of his clothes were already soaking wet with sweat. It seemed as if he wouldn't be able to hold out for much longer. But besides Lin Ming, Huo Wenlong only had a few beads of sweat dropping down his face. It was apparent that he could continue for a while longer.

“Nuyan Ming has reached his limit.” A martial artist from the Earth Corridor said.

“If there isn't an accident then Huo Wenlong should be able to last for three quarter hours of time, enough to meet the rare 50 year standard of Timeworn Phoenix City. But Nuyan Ming should only be able to last for several more breaths of time at most. Although he's lacking just a bit, nearly reaching that time is also quite good especially since Nuyan Ming is a martial artist from the lower realms.

Several martial artists began discussing amongst themselves. In this first round of the trial, Huo Wenlong had the upper hand. But, the first stage of the king level smelting trial wasn't something completed in a short period of time; it was unknown just who the final winner would be.

Huo Ping snickered as he saw Lin Ming approaching his limits more and more. He said, “This Nuyan Ming shouldn’t push it if he can’t hold on. When the other martial artists couldn’t stand it any further, the most that happened to them was that their faces whitened a bit; none of them looked like this fellow does right now. What’s he doing? If he can’t persist then he can’t persist. What’s the point of putting up a futile struggle?”

“Humph, to be able to persist even when he’s reached his limits just means that Nuyan Ming has a firm will! If you tried you would have simply failed!” Yellowright Min bluntly retorted. Huo Ping sneered in disdain, no longer speaking, obviously not wanting to bother with this nonsense.

After 10 breaths of time, Lin Ming’s entire body flushed red. On the area where his palm touched the Celestial Shifting Mirror, a faint flame slowly rose up.

Everyone present noticed this slight change. But, regardless if they were a martial artist of the Earth Corridor or Sky Corridor, none of them was clear on what was happening.

In the void, the tall old man’s eyes widened with interest. “This little boy, with just his trivial middle Revolving Core cultivation, wants to use his body to direct the fire and move the fire-attribute energy within the first world, ultimately burning it away. How daring of him!”

The red dress woman faintly smiled. She said in a soft whisper,

“His affinity towards fire is amazingly high so it’s easier for him to move the power of fire in that world. There’s a chance he’ll succeed, but it is indeed asking for too much.”

“Let’s continue watching. No matter what, that bold decisiveness is to this old man’s liking. He’s not like that Huo Wenlong kid who’s just trying to play some tricks and delay for time.” The old man shot a look at Huo Wenlong, obviously viewing him with disdain.

“Haha, it’s also quite good for Huo Wenlong to reach this level, and it’s not as if what he did is against the rules. Now we can only look to know whether or not Nuyan Ming will be able to succeed.

At this time, within the world of the Celestial Shifting Mirror, the accumulated energy within Lin Ming’s body had reached its limit. The Heretical God Seed was completely full. The totem engravings on the seed began to emit a brilliant golden light!

Not only that, but even Lin Ming’s dantian was filled with a massive amount of fire energy. These energies were all absorbed by the Black Hole Revolving Core within his dantian, forming a whirlpool of fire that covered everything in a hazy red fog.

His dantian began to burn!

When a martial artist entered the Xiantian realm, the dantian became the source and the very origin of all their energy. However, it also became their greatest weakness.

The flame that existed within the dantian was core fire. If one wasn't a fire-attribute martial artist then it was simply impossible to start this sort of core fire. This sort of fire, if sent out from the source of a martial artist's energy, would contain the most formidable power!

Use his bloodline as the guide, ignite the core fire, fuse it with the power of fire within the Heretical God Seed and then scorch away the heavens and the earth!

Bang!

With a deafening sound, all of the highly compressed fire energy within the Heretical God Seed completely broke out. In that moment, it was like the flame totem on the Heretical God Seed had become the eyes of a phoenix, the dazzling golden rays of light piercing through the limitless void!

Lin Ming's entire body began to burn. The flames around him coalesced into a titanic phoenix that let out a keening wail as it flew out. The ferocity of that flame shook the heavens and shattered the earth!

The sea of fire boiled with excitement. Countless amounts of fire energy was sucked into this phoenix, surging tides of crimson energy blew into the sky, forming a massive red whirlpool that seemed to swallow the heavens!

Lin Ming was a Revolving Core martial artist. No matter how strong he was, it was impossible for him to burn down a world

with his power alone. He could only use his body to control the power of fire, quickening the power of the world and using the pre-existing fire energy to destroy all of creation.

This was a utilization of the Fire Laws, as well as the only way to break through the first realm of the Celestial Shifting Mirror!

Ka ka ka!

A crack appeared in the void!

At this moment, Lin Ming's entire body was wreathed in flames. Both of his eyes smoldered with fires of the Burning Heaven. An intense pain snapped out from his dantian, and he felt as if all of his meridians and even his soul was being seared black by this fire. This sort of pain directly linked to his spiritual sea, it was potent enough that it seemed capable of sweeping away his consciousness!

Lin Ming felt his spiritual sea shudder. Within his spiritual sea, black flames rolled upwards. But at that moment, a spear shaped battle spirit howled forth, slashing down onto this python of black fire, directly turning it away.

"I used my own bloodline as the guide and spurred the power of fire within this world to burn everything asunder. The pain in this Celestial Shifting Mirror was illusory to begin with; it simply cannot harm me."

In that instant, between Lin Ming's eyebrows, the flame shaped

mark left behind by the blood of the Ancient Phoenix emitted light as if it were a rising sun and a golden phoenix howled out. This phoenix was smaller than the phoenix that rushed into the world earlier, but it was even more incandescent, brilliant and pure!

This was the result of Lin Ming fusing the Laws of his life's bloodline along with the power of fire from the Heretical God Seed!

The golden phoenix melted into the phoenix formed from the fire of the world, turning everything into a burnished golden red!

Bang bang bang!

The void continued to collapse, and large pieces of space deconstructed before him. A space storm swept out. This chaotic power of space actually fused with the flames. It was like a 'wind' that turned up the intensity of the fires, making it even fiercer.

In that moment, Lin Ming's eyes lit up. If a space storm fused into flames, it could actually be like the wind, making the intensity of the fire even more ebullient?

After realizing this, Lin Ming's heart was overturned by monstrous waves. He was too clear just what this discovery meant. This was the same as fusing together different Laws!

Fire and thunder had similar origins, but even so, Lin Ming had spent a considerable amount of time and effort to understand the

Concept of Thunderfire.

The Concept of Space was amongst the most elusive and mystical Concepts. Moreover, it wasn't generally associated with the Concept of Fire. To fuse these two Concepts together was much, much harder!

Yet here, Lin Ming had seen with his own eyes the fusion of a space storm and fire. This was also the fusion of Concepts!

“So it's like this!” Lin Ming's steadily looked on. Although the world within the Celestial Shifting Mirror was nothing more than an illusion, the energy traces contained within still originated from the Chaos Stone. These traces were engraved by the principles of the universe, recording the rules to mobilize the most essential energy.

In other words, all of the phenomena occurring in the dreamland of the Celestial Shifting Mirror embodied the source Laws of the universe. How much you could comprehend all depended on your own ability!

Bang bang bang!

70% of the first world's space broke apart, the fire escaping into the void. Lin Ming wholeheartedly watched all of these changes occur. Even as blood flowed out from the corners of his eyes, this blood was instantly scorched away by the fire around him. Yet, Lin Ming didn't seem to feel any of this.

“So this the Fire Concept of Burning Heat! This is a chance of fusing the power of fire and the power of space! I get it! I understand it now!”

Lin Ming took a deep breath, and roared out, “First world, break for me!”

With a resonant shout, the golden red phoenix behind him issued a clarion cry. As for the edges of the space, the world began deconstructing!

The sea of fire collapsed and space turned into a great vortex, swallowing all!

For a time, outside of the Celestial Shifting Mirror, Lin Ming’s body trembled. The flame mark between his eyebrows emitted a dazzling golden light even as blood leaked out from his eyes.

“This isn’t good! Nuyan Ming has overdrawn himself!

A martial artist from the Earth Corridor shouted out in surprise. The Celestial Shifting Mirror was an illusory magic array that shouldn’t have any dangers; it wasn’t like a killing array. Generally speaking, if a martial artist died within the Celestial Shifting Mirror, there still wouldn’t be any problems with their true body. It would only be their consciousness that would be frightened a bit.

However, there were always exceptions. When a martial artist invested too much of his mind and surpassed their limits, it was

possible that their spiritual sea could be damaged and they could fall to their obsessions.

Some lower realm martial artists wanted to forcefully pull Lin Ming back from the Celestial Shifting Mirror, but they were actually stopped by the red-robed Elder's shout, "No one move!"

As soon as this voice fell, Lin Ming's body shook and he was ejected out from the Celestial Shifting Mirror.

Lin Ming took a step back. His face was white as he spat out a mouthful of blood. He looked as if he had exhausted nearly everything he had.

"Brother Nuyan, are you alright!?" Yellowright Min shot forwards to help support Lin Ming. The other martial artists from the lower realms also took a half-step forwards to ask about his injuries.

"Brother Nuyan, have a mind calming pill." A martial artist handed out a bottle of pills. If one persisted within the Celestial Shifting Mirror for too long, it was easy to wound one's spiritual sea. Eating a mind calming pill would be helpful to restoring the spiritual sea.

"Brother Nuyan has done well. Although you just barely missed three quarter hours, your result is enough to be proud of."

Lin Ming pushed away the bottle of mind calming pills and took a

deep breath. He suppressed the restless blood tumbling within his body, and without even sparing a glance at Huo Wenlong, said to the red-robed Elder, “In this test, junior has gained some insights. I would like to immediately go close up in seclusion and meditate on them.”

“Good. Then go.” The red-robed Elder smiled and nodded, a satisfied expression on his face.

Lin Ming bid his farewell and instantly launched his movement technique to fly back to his own dimension as soon as possible. All of the martial artists left behind were bewildered.

Huo Ping curled his lips in disdain. He sneered, “What kind of insights? He’s probably afraid of being embarrassed, so he found an excuse to leave. He only had half an incense stick of time until he would have reached three quarter hours. Huo Wenlong will inevitably reach that time. If Nuyan Ming stayed behind he would have just lost face.”

Hearing these words, Yellowright Min was incensed. He coldly snorted, saying, “Huo Ping, what kind of garbage are you spouting. You only lasted in there for two quarter hours! You are also far from reaching Brother Nuyan’s heights!”

“It’s true that I can’t match up to him, but I am not his match to begin with.” Huo Ping glanced at Huo Wenlong. However, just as he did this, he noticed something strange. At the area where Lin Ming had stood, where his right hand had touched the surface of the Celestial Shifting Mirror, there was actually a small web of cracks that clearly spread out. These cracks were repairing

themselves at a very slow pace.

“The Celestial Shifting Mirror... how could it have cracked?”

Chapter 730 – A Strike To Shatter the World

After Huo Ping spoke out, the other martial artists present also noticed the crack on the surface of the Celestial Shifting Mirror.

Wasn't the God Transforming Mirror engraved with the principles from the forming of the universe? How could it have cracked?

All of the martial artists present were curious about this exact same question.

But at this time, as Huo Yu looked at the God Transforming Mirror, she felt a growing horror in her heart. As someone that could be considered decently talented within the Huo Clan, she had a good understanding of the God Transforming Mirror.

The God Transforming Mirror was indeed a divine object that was engraved with the source energy Laws. But, the core of the Celestial Mirror, as well as the crystal wall that comprised its surface, were not true divine treasures from the formation of the universe. Rather, they were created by an array formation master. When the world of the God Transforming Mirror was broken, then the mirror itself would also break!

The one who created this mirror had already considered this situation from the start. With the liquid flame crystal inside the main body of the God Transforming Mirror, even if there were cracks produced on it, it could slowly melt and reform itself with a self-repairing function.

“Nuyan Ming... passed the test of the first Concept? This is...” Huo Yu sucked in a deep breath, her eyes flashing with astonishment. The God Transforming Mirror had a total of nine worlds within it. These nine worlds all corresponded with nine different kinds of Concepts. These nine different Concepts nearly encompassed all the complete mysteries of the Fire Laws.

Of these nine Concepts, each one was more difficult than the last. If one could pass the sixth or the seventh Concept, then they could become a Holy Lord within the Realm of the Gods. If one could rush past the ninth Concept, then that would mean they had fully comprehended the source Laws of Fire, having a strength as if they were a god of fire incarnate!

This was the origin of the God Transforming Mirror’s name. Cross through nine levels of Concepts, break through the mortal coil, and transform into a god!

And now Lin Ming had already broken through the first Concept?

Huo Yu found this completely unbelievable. If Lin Ming was a favored son of heaven from some great clan in the Realm of the Gods, then she wouldn’t have found this surprising. However, Lin Ming was an obvious newcomer to the Concept of Fire that had just arrived recently. His comprehension of the Fire Laws was inferior to even that of a child from the Realm of Gods. He had used half an incense stick of time with the Ancient Phoenix Testament in order to fuse with its Laws. The disparity was simply too great.

The only aspect worth noticing was his compatibility with the power of fire. But depending on just this alone, it was impossible for him to have burnt away the world of the first level!

Huo Yu was shocked, but as for Huo Ping and the others, they hadn't ever experienced this God Transforming Mirror before, so they had no idea what a crack on the surface meant. Although they thought that it was extraordinary for a crack to appear on the surface of the God Transforming Mirror, the crack had already healed itself to an unnoticeable degree in just half an incense stick of time. Thus, they didn't believe that this matter was too important.

But at this time, Huo Wenlong's body shook. With a pallid face, he stepped back from the God Transforming Mirror.

He had finally reached his limits, unable to withstand the Concept of the first world.

Huo Wenlong didn't look to the hourglass first. Instead, his first action was to turn to his side and he saw that the area where Lin Ming once stood was now empty. Obviously, he had been defeated first.

He won!

Huo Wenlong's lips curved up in a smile. Then, he turned to look at the hourglass. The three quarter hours mark had already been filled, and a bit of sand was now drifting down. He had made the

three quarter hours mark!

As Huo Wenlong saw this, he was ecstatic. That meant he was a genius seen only once every 50 years!

To last within the mirror world for three quarter hours of time, that was a result rarely seen even in 50 years. Although Huo Wenlong had used some tricks in order to obtain this honor, he still hadn't violated any rules. What he relied on was his comprehension of the Fire Laws. The results had been quite effective.

With such a title, it was highly likely that he would be chosen to enter the Realm of the Gods for the second stage of the smelting trial!

"Haha, Brother Long, three quarter hours! You are the first one in this test to break through three quarter hours of time within! This is a rarely seen result even within 50 years in Timeworn Phoenix City!" Huo Ping hurriedly ran up and congratulated Huo Wenlong. Naturally, he couldn't miss such an opportunity to flatter him.

"That's right, ah, Brother Long, we've tried so hard to just reach two quarter hours. We thought this was already quite good, but compared to Brother Long, our results are just too shameful! None of us can even compare!"

"That's right, you've really broadened my horizons!"

Several other martial artists from the Realm of the Gods also complimented in unison. Although this sort of flattery was obviously opportunistic, Huo Wenlong was in an excellent mood and being praised like this made his thoughts flow incomparably smoothly.

Although he couldn't conceal the smile on his face, he 'humbly' said, "My luck is just good. Once this smelting trial has ended, I ask everyone to come to the Ancient Phoenix Restaurant and share some glasses of wine with me."

There was only a single restaurant in Timeworn Phoenix. The ingredients inside were all fire-attribute spiritual goods. The wine itself was millennia aged fire-attribute wine brewed from heavenly treasures. Just eating a meal there was greatly beneficial to one's cultivation. Of course, the price itself was so high that it left one speechless.

"Ancient Phoenix Restaurant, haha, since Brother Long is so kindly treating us, then we won't be disrespectful!" A martial artist from the Realm of the Gods happily said. Nobody would miss an opportunity to flatter Huo Wenlong and eat such a sumptuous feast of fire-attribute spirit foods.

The group from the Realm of the Gods was jumping in joy. But at this time, the red-robed Elder extracted a scroll from his spatial ring and rolled it open with a thunderous sound. Without expression, he said, "I will now announce the results!"

Hearing the red-robed Elder speak, the current martial artists felt their hearts gripped with fear. The first stage of the king level

smelting trial was assessed from the totality of scores combined together. After each test, the examiner would give every candidate a score. This score was related to these martial artists future role and status in their clans. It was of utmost importance!

Huo Wenlong faintly smiled, confident in himself. He wasn't worried about his results. Since he could last for three quarter hours and obtained the title as being a genius rarely seen in 50 years, it was only natural that his results would be correspondingly outstanding.

“A perfect score is ten points. The score is judged by me. All those that fail have zero!”

The red-robed Elder indifferently said. With a large stroke of a pen, he directly wiped off all the names of the martial artists that had failed from the scroll. This red-robed Elder normally had an icy expression, and he rarely gave any advice or direction to these candidates. As an official in charge of the tests, he tried to remain as fair and unbiased as possible. It was only when Lin Ming burnt down the first world that a rare and tiny smile crossed his face.

“Yellowright Min, barely passing, 1 point!”

1 point... Yellowright Min was flabbergasted. If a perfect score was 10 points, then 1 point was simply too shameful. Well, at least he had passed.

“Teng Qing, barely passing, 1.2 points. Yun Lan, barely passing, 1.3 points...” As the red-robed Elder read out each name, the

martial artists who were called out all had ugly complexions as they heard their scores. A perfect score was 10 points, but there were only a few that surpassed 2 points. The highest so far had obtained 2.3 points. This was too great a blow on their mentality.

Then, the red-robed Elder read out the name of Huo Ping. Huo Ping came from the Realm of the Gods and he had also gone to the Earth Corridor. Moreover, he had lasted for two quarter hours. His result should be extraordinary.

After the red-robed Elder read Huo Ping's name, Huo Ping tensed, his heart lifting up. He leaned forwards to listen more carefully...

“Huo Ping, 3.2 points!”

Huo Ping suddenly wilted. For better or worse, he still had an outstanding result. What sort of standards were they setting here?

Out of a total of 10 points, he had only obtained 3.2 points. How could they actually say that his result was outstanding...

“Huo Yu, 4.3 points!”

Besides Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong, Huo Yu was the only other trial challenger who had gone to the Sky Corridor. She obviously found it hard to accept this score of 4.3 points.

“This old man Jun is really too harsh, every single grade he's given out is exactly by the book, not even half a point more.” In the

void, the tall old man shook his head. These little kids would have to return to the Realm of the Gods and report their results. Out of ten points, they only managed to obtain 3-4 points... this would be quite hard to admit. Some examiners would stretch out the rules in compassion, and invariably increase the number of points by one or two so that the score seemed more attractive. But, this stodgy examiner obviously doesn't care about that at all."

"Haha, that's also good. These young children should know just how great the disparity is between them and others. Destroying all that vaunted arrogance in their hearts will only do them good." The red dressed woman smiled. The world was too vast, and there were far too many outstanding heroic youths. A single genius wasn't worth anything at all. If they were blinded by their own halos then that would only end up harming themselves.

"Huo Wenlong..." Old man Jun spoke his name, the martial artists present pricked up their ears. Just how many points did Huo Wenlong obtain?

"6.1 points!"

As these words were spoken, all of the martial artists present were dumbfounded. Huo Wenlong also frowned. This score was just too low!

He was known as a 50 year talent of Timeworn Phoenix City. He had lasted inside that world for three quarter hours, and yet he only obtained 6.1 points. Then, who deserved to be graded more than 6 points?

Huo Ping couldn't help but send a true essence sound transmission to his companions, "Which brain-dead idiot came up with these scoring criteria? Are 7, 8, 9 points just there for show?"

His sound transmission also included Huo Wenlong. Although these words seemed disrespectful, in truth it matched Huo Wenlong's current feelings. This was also Huo Ping's goal.

Huo Wenlong was irate. He would have to report this score back to his clan. If it was too poor, then he would be laughed at even if he obtained first place. It would mean all he did was compete with a bunch of garbage to obtain first place.

However, what came out of his mouth was, "Huo Ping, don't be disrespectful to the seniors that came up with the rules. There is always a reason for it. Just because we can't obtain a higher score, doesn't mean others can't either."

As Huo Wenlong spoke to here, old man Jun then slowly said, "Nuyan Ming..."

"8.9 points!"

As the voice fell, Huo Wenlong froze where he stood. Just as he said 'Just because we can't obtain a higher score, doesn't mean others can't either', that old man Jun had actually given a higher score. Moreover, the one who had obtained this score was... Nuyan Ming!

8.9 points? How was that possible!?

“Did I just hear it wrong!? How could Nuyan Ming obtain 8.9 points?” A Realm of the Gods martial artist cried out. This was a great injustice!

“Instructor, there must have been a mistake! Huo Wenlong only obtained 6.1 points! Nuyan Ming’s results were even worse than Huo Wenlong’s.”

“Yeah! What’s going on here!?”

It wasn’t just the Realm of the Gods martial artists, but even those from the lower realms were confused. They looked at old man Jun with puzzled eyes.

Old man Jun waved the sleeves of his robe and coldly said, “Humph! You gaggle of ignorant juniors. There is no limit in this universe, there is always someone better! How could anyone of you nobodies question this old man’s evaluation! Nuyan Ming managed to defeat the world, breaking it apart. But you lot barely managed to linger around underneath the Fire Laws. The difference is greater than the heavens and earth! In fact, the scores I’ve given you all are far more than what you deserve! Now go close up and start training! Immediately!”

With that, old man Jun rolled up the scroll and turned around to leave in a single motion, leaving behind a group of baffled martial artists. Defeat the world?

What the actual f*ck!?

Chapter 731 – Fusing Concepts, Creating a Move

Defeat the world? The ordinary martial artists present didn't understand what old man Jun's words of defeating the world meant. However, Huo Wenlong had a decent status in the Realm of the Gods as an outstanding youth. He naturally knew what it meant to defeat the world of the God Transforming Mirror.

This was the same as Lin Ming rushing past the first level Concept of the God Transforming Mirror in a single go, directly passing into the second level Concept!

The nine Concepts of the God Transforming Mirror corresponded to the nine mysteries behind the Laws of Fire. The further one went, the closer they approached the source Laws of all fire!

Comprehend seven to eight Concepts and become a Holy Lord. Thoroughly comprehend the nine levels of Concepts and reincarnate as a God of Fire!

Of the God Transforming Mirror's Concepts, even breaking through the first level was extremely difficult. Especially for those young heroic elites who hadn't reached the Life Destruction realm yet. In the entire Timeworn Phoenix City, this might not happen for even 100 years!

Huo Wenlong looked over at the God Transforming Mirror and then at the spot that Lin Ming had just been standing. And indeed,

he saw that there were several cracks visible in the God Transforming Mirror. Although most of these had already restored themselves, the faint white marks proved that they had existed.

Break the world and thus break the God Transforming Mirror. This boy, just how had he done this!?

Huo Wenlong found this hard to accept. This wasn't something that could be done with just a higher level of compatibility. This proved that Lin Ming's Laws of Fire had improved tremendously after meditating on them.

Only a few days had passed... could it be that his perception wasn't poor, but rather that he hadn't come into contact with the Fire Laws before, thus his comprehension of them was only at the most basic level?

As Huo Wenlong realized this, he felt a cold chill creep up his back. If this were true, then any wish he had of chasing after Lin Ming was just a joke.

As Huo Wenlong was imagining these scenarios, Huo Yu had already flown back to her training area. She had been far too stimulated by this. As a young elite from the Realm of the Gods, Huo Yu was arrogant in her own right. Although her affinity with fire was lower than Lin Ming's, she still believed that at the start, her comprehension of Fire Laws exceeded Lin Ming. But now, that might not be true anymore. This placed a great pressure on her mind.

“Brother Long... what’s the matter?” A Realm of the Gods martial artist asked weakly. They had faintly guessed that something was wrong. It most likely had something to do with that crack that Lin Ming had left behind. They weren’t idiots. Knowing that old man Jun had given Lin Ming a high score, they were able to think it over and approximate the situation.

“Humph!”

Huo Wenlong coughed, and without a single word further, flew towards his own training area. Since things were like this, that lofty dinner at the Ancient Phoenix Restaurant was also naturally canceled.

To defeat the world and rush past the first Concept of the God Transforming World. This result truly made Huo Wenlong feel as if he was being suppressed from all angles.

“That kid’s pretty good.” In the void, the tall old man nodded with satisfaction. “I thought it would be a bit too difficult for him to break through the world, but to think he actually succeeded... his willpower is strong! Otherwise, with just his meager understanding of the Laws of Fire, it would have been impossible to control the power of that world.”

“Mm, this time could be considered an accidental harvest. Nuyan Ming comes from my Timeworn Phoenix City, we can be considered as having a bit of fate together. I will deliver to him the complete ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ as well as the first three layers of the ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’. As for how he develops in the future, that will all depend on him.”

As the red dressed woman spoke, she casually formed a seal and passed on a message.

Towards a genius like Lin Ming, the red dressed woman would only casually direct him without supporting him too much. First, she had no obligation to do so. Secondly, this world was simply too vast. There were as many talents as there were grains of sand in an infinite desert. To last three quarter hours in the first test could be called a 50 year talent of Timeworn phoenix City, but to break through the first world could be called a 100 year talent.

However, this was only the Ancient Phoenix Clan. In the countless other great sects, they all had their own extraordinary youths. And in the Realm of the Gods, there were even more than that.

There were countless heroic young elites, but in the Realm of the Gods, within the 3000 great worlds and more, there were only some 3000 World Kings and tens of thousands of Holy Lords. These World Kings and Holy Lords were accumulated over a period of tens of thousands of years, hundreds of thousands of years, or even millions of years. Let alone a 100 year talent of Timeworn Phoenix City, even a 10,000 year talent would have a near zero chance of becoming a World King.

There were many talents that started out extremely dazzling, like rising stars. But later, they perished, or perhaps they were lost in the masses of people.

The old man said, “This brat should have his own destiny to be able to reach this step. Let’s not disturb him and let his fate freely take its course so he can develop his own destiny to the limit!”

The world was endless. It was a common phenomenon for talents to all have their own destinies. Otherwise, among the countless beings that existed, how could anyone reach the front of the pack?

“Alright. I’m looking forward to see how he grows. I hope that he has a faint chance of at least becoming an outer court Elder level character.”

As the two people finished speaking, their figures vanished from the void, no one knowing that they ever came.

.....

At this time, in his chamber, Lin Ming had completely entered into a meditative state. His mind was flooded with the images of the world collapsing amidst that monstrous storm of fire. He recalled that massive red phoenix formed from the power of the world that fused together with the golden phoenix that came from combusting his own bloodline, tearing apart space itself!

Then, that space storm has combined with the fire storm. The Concept of Space and the Concept of Fire had, in that moment, perfectly fused together. This was the convergence of the source power of the universe, containing the most fundamental source energy and principles. It was only under a great lucky chance that Lin Ming was able to see this.

The concept of Space and the Concept of Fire were two Concepts that Lin Ming had learned early on in his road of martial arts. Especially Lin Ming's comprehension of the Concept of Space. That surpassed even his comprehension of the Concept of Fire.

His mind constantly deduced the changes in energy. Lin Ming entered into the ethereal martial intent state, entering a completely enlightened condition.

Although the ethereal martial intent had no sort of combat efficiency, its benefits were extremely obvious towards Lin Ming's cultivation speed. Especially in this sort of situation. With this martial intent, Lin Ming was able to completely concentrate and reproduce the scene when the world collapsed.

The power of fire and space wove together in Lin Ming's mind. Then, Lin Ming suddenly thrust out his hand. All around his body, fire origin energy concentrated into a shining red light that sparkled around him.

The Heretical God Seed within him howled and the flame totem emitted a dazzling golden red light. Fire origin energy also began to revolve according to the totem, forming a vortex of red energy.

“Power of space, fuse!”

Lin Ming's eyes widened. Space around his palm began to warp. The power of space escaped his hand and gathered into the fire. The red vortex became increasingly intense, and the color

gradually turned black, forming a black storm.

Chi chi chi!

The energy vortex howled. The energy contained within was compressed to an unbelievable degree, surging as if it would explode at any moment. The surrounding space became unstable, and a small crack suddenly appeared in the thin air before instantly fading away.

This was-!

Lin Ming's eyes lit up, his heart filled with joy.

This was the tearing of space!

He had finally reached the boundary of tearing space!

With Lin Ming's original strength and comprehension of the Concept of Space, he had only been able to distort space. As for tearing space apart, that was another level altogether!

Originally, the three great masters of Xuan Wuji, Nanyun Wang, and Abbot Whitebrow, along with several dozen Life Destruction powerhouses, had barely managed to make a connection through a space barrier in a world on the edge of collapse.

But to make a tear in stable space? That was another difficulty

altogether!

The stability of Timeworn Phoenix City's dimension even exceeded the world of Sky Spill Continent. If Lin Ming could create a small tear in the space here, then once he returned to the Sky Spill Continent, he could form an even larger crack. If a weaker martial artist were to bump into this space crack, their body would be ripped apart.

Ka ka ka!

Lin Ming's control of this energy became increasingly unstable. With Lin Ming's understanding of the Laws and Concepts, he immediately lost control of this energy vortex; it was ready to implode at any time!

At this time, Lin Ming's eyes shined with a sharp light. A long red spear jumped into his arms, and the power of fire and the turbulent vortex of space energy poured into it. The entire spear turned a deep, dark red, the color of surging magma from deep underground!

The power of space and fire had finally fused together!

“Bury the Heavens!”

Lin Ming thrust out his spear. On the shaft, black and red fused energy intensely twisted together. In this moment, the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ flashed in his mind. He remembered the

power of the spear skills from the slaughter path!

Bang!

A spear thrust out. The power of space and fire erupted; a black demonic flame scorched the void!

Chi chi chi!

Around the point of the spear, space was burnt by the power of fire. Little tiny dots of space fragments shot out, vibrantly revolving around the spear like Blood Drinking Seals.

To use space fragments to replace Blood Drinking Seals!

Blood Seal Twisting Murder!

A spear shot forth like a meteor several hundred feet forwards. Countless cracks were cut open in space, like an invisible beast maw that was ready to bite!

Lin Ming looked back and immediately sucked in a breath of cold air. This move was definitely his strongest attack so far! With a single thrust, the black flames burned through the void. In addition to the attack of the space crack, the striking power against others could be imagined!

Lin Ming's talent in using the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'

wasn't too great. After all, it wasn't a style that he had created. Lin Ming's talents lay in his martial intent, soul force, and battle spirit. In the slaughter path, he wasn't too talented, thus the power he could pull out from the Blood Drinking Seals he formed was limited. Especially as Lin Ming's strength rapidly rose, the Blood Drinking Seals could no longer keep up with him.

But now, by replacing the Blood Drinking Seals with space fragments, Lin Ming was able to use his superiority in the Concept of Space. Simultaneously he could fuse the power of fire into his attack. This was an attack that could manifest the absolute pinnacle of Lin Ming's strength.

This was why a self-created move was best suited for oneself. As for the foundation for Lin Ming's self-created moves, that was the massive amount of shattered memories from the Magic Cube. There were simply far too many styles that he understood.

With this, he began stepping onto the road of becoming a martial arts grand master. From Thunderfire Annihilation at the start to Chasing Thunder, Chasing Sun, Penetrating Rainbow, and now to Bury the Heavens, Lin Ming's self-created moves had become increasingly mighty.

Lin Ming examined his own body. That strike just now had consumed the majority of the fire energy within the Heretical God Seed, and the golden flame totem had also dimmed much more.

"What a great Bury the Heavens. It can break apart the void, it is truly deserving of its name. This is my strongest move. Once I perfect it and fuse my battle spirit with it, my chances of coping

with Xuan Wuji will greatly increase!” As Lin Ming thought of this, his eyes flashed with a shining fighting spirit.

Chapter 732 – Nine Layers of the Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle

This time, Lin Ming had already closed up for a total of five days. As he was readying to leave his seclusion, he heard a cold metallic voice echo out in the void, “Nuyan Ming, please release the spell on the gate.”

“Mm?”

Lin Ming was startled. He opened the door and saw that there were two red dressed maids standing outside of his dimension. One of these maids carried a jade tray, and on top of this tray was an exquisite box wrapped in red silk.

These two young maids both had a cultivation at the early Xiantian realm. Looking at their age, they were no more than 20 years old.

“Sir Nuyan, these are the jade slips that my mistress bids me deliver to you. Please accept them.” As the young maid spoke, she lifted the cover on the wooden box, revealing three jade slips, two of them blood red and one of them emerald green.

These jade slips were far larger than those used in the Sky Spill Continent.

“Oh?” Lin Ming was overjoyed. He took one up and swept through it with his perception, his mind jumping with happiness.

This was the complete set of the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ cultivation method, a total of nine layers!

The ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ was the most core cultivation method of the Divine Phoenix Island. When Lin Ming had completed the general level smelting trial, he had obtained the first eight layers. Finally, he now had completed the entire set. The nine layers of the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ was considered an excellent cultivation method even within the Realm of the Gods.

Lin Ming received the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’. Then, he looked at another jade slip. This was impressively the ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’, and the first three layers of that arcane skill too.

“The ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’?” Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up. Without a doubt, the ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’ was a more advanced, higher level arcane ability than the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’. When Lin Ming was first taught the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’, Mu Qianyu had said that it, along with the ‘Blue Luan Abstract Phantom Code’, were two cultivation method manuals of the Ancient Phoenix Forbidden Manual. If one could completely cultivate the complete Ancient Phoenix Forbidden Manual of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, then one could be reborn in a nirvana of flames, becoming endless and indestructible. Of course, this was only the thoughts of Divine Phoenix Island. As to whether or not this was actually true, Lin Ming had no idea.

Now, it seemed that this Ancient Phoenix Forbidden Manual was

likely this ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’.

The third jade slip was smaller than the first two. This jade slip wasn’t a fiery red like the other two, but a deep green color. It was just like a jade pendant that a woman would usually wear.

As soon as Lin Ming picked it up, he sucked in a breath of air. This third jade slip actually contained teachings and experiences of Fire Laws that some great senior had left behind.

Roughly glancing at it, Lin Ming was already able to estimate just how valuable these experiences were. Although it wasn’t as mystical and profound as the Chaos Stones, its advantage was that it was much more detailed and understanding it would be far easier. This sort of jade slip was absolutely priceless. This was because only a great master who had reached the large success of the Concept of Fire could possibly record it; it was impossible to duplicate.

This was just like someone trying to engrave a detailed seal that another person else had left behind. Even if they had it in front of them, they still wouldn’t be able to reproduce it in absolute detail.

Thus, because of these requirements, other similar jade slips with experiences of Concepts were extremely rare.

“Sir Nuyan, the first two jade slips are gifted to you. The third jade slip can only be borrowed by you for a total of 20 days. Do not think that this is too little. My mistress has recorded down a total of 12 jade slips detailing her experiences in the Laws of Fire. This

jade slip only contains the experiences of the most fundamental Fire Laws. Within the entire Timeworn Phoenix City, there are countless people who wish to have the chance to perceive this jade slip through meditation.” The second maid lightly said.

“Thank you two fairy maidens, I am very grateful for this. May I inquire as to who your mistress is...?” Lin Ming wasn’t surprised that he was only given 20 days to meditate on this jade slip. How could such a rare jade slip possibly be wantonly given to him, let alone this was also one detailing her experiences in the Concept of Fire. Even the ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’ and ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ in his hands were incomparably precious. This was because a Supreme Elder needed to practice this cultivation method to the corresponding layer in order to record them in these jade slips.

Someday, if Lin Ming were to become a Holy Lord or World King within the Realm of the Gods, any casual thing that he created would also become a precious treasure to the world.

Hearing Lin Ming’s cautious and polite question, the two maids giggled. They said, “Our mistress is known as Fairy Feng. She is the Supervisory Envoy of Timeworn Phoenix City.”

“Supervisory Envoy?”

Lin Ming silently remembered this in his heart. Normally speaking, a Supervisory Envoy was someone sent down from headquarters to manage matters. This Fairy Feng was most likely sent down from the Realm of the Gods to supervise Timeworn Phoenix City. Her status was possibly higher than the City Lord. At

the bare minimum, she should be on par with him.

“Well then Sir Nuyan, we won’t disturb your seclusion any further. We will excuse ourselves first.” As the two maids were about to leave, Lin Ming’s mind suddenly stirred. He quickly asked out loud, “I have a quick question. Can I lend this ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ and ‘the Ancient Phoenix Code’ to my fellow clansmen to cultivate?”

Lin Ming thought of giving these two cultivation methods to Divine Phoenix Island in the future. In a sense, those of Divine Phoenix Island could already be considered his clansmen.

“There is no problem with the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’. However, you will need to apply for the ‘Ancient Phoenix Code’. That will be decided by the lords of Timeworn Phoenix City.”

After the two young maids spoke to here, they quickly bowed and excused themselves, leaving behind Lin Ming alone with the three jade slips in his little dimension.

With a deep breath, Lin Ming closed the spell on the door to his dimension. He took out the third jade slip detailing the Laws and Concepts of Fire and read the small preface.

‘This jade slips contains details of the first two Fire Concepts of the Ancient Phoenix Clan – the Concept of Burning Heat and the Concept of Annihilation. Do not believe in the words of others as much as you believe in yourself. The Concepts of Fire vary from

individual to individual. The path that others walk down, might not suit you best. Only when you blaze your own trail can you aspire to reach the peak of martial arts!’

This was what Fairy Feng had personally written.

Lin Ming agreed with this small preface. If something wasn’t his to begin with, then it would be difficult to use. For instance, the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ and ‘Golden Roc Shattering the Void’ could not reach their maximum potential in Lin Ming’s hands. Likewise, only Lin Ming could display the greatest power behind ‘Bury the Heavens’. This was because one needed to comprehend the Laws of Space and Fire, and also have the Heretical God Seed as support.

Lin Ming quickly read on, rapidly absorbing the insights into the Laws that Fairy Feng had left behind. He eagerly read everything, remembering the mysterious patterns and images within and enlightening himself of the inherent mysteries of the source Laws and their changes.

The first fire-attribute Concept – Burning Heat. This was the very basis of all fires, the foundation of all Fire Laws.

The second fire-attribute Concept – Annihilation. This was the energy of fire, the embodiment of fire’s striking power.

What would the third Fire Concept be, all the way up to the ninth?

Time unknowingly passed. As Lin Ming experimented with his moves, the totem engraving on the Heretical God Seed began to subtly change. He couldn't help but add more and more details to Bury the Heavens, making his move even more perfect.

When Lin Ming had used the elementary form of Bury the Heavens to tear apart the first world, he had completely exhausted all of his strength and was then thrust out from the God Transforming Mirror. This time, after improving Bury the Heavens, he should have enough strength left over to look at the second world of the God Transforming Mirror. This was also the world of the second Concept – Annihilation.

“I wonder what the fire annihilation Laws are like. If I can look at the Law of Annihilation, I should be able to gain a much deeper and profound understanding of the Concept of Annihilation as written in the jade slip left behind by Senior Fairy Feng...”

.....

As Lin Ming was in closed-door seclusion meditating over the jade slip of Fire Laws that Fairy Feng had left him, Huo Wenlong and the others weren't dawdling about either. Every trial challenger that passed through the God Transforming Mirror was granted additional time to continue perceiving the Laws of Fire. Because Huo Wenlong's result was outstanding, he had obtained five extra days. Huo Yu was only slightly inferior to Huo Wenlong and was granted four days.

As for Huo Ping and the other Realm of the Gods martial artists, they were all given the same time as the rest; three days.

These five days were extremely precious to Huo Wenlong. After being galvanized by Lin Ming, Huo Wenlong completely invested himself into meditating on the Concepts and Laws. His perception was not bad to begin with either. In these five days, Huo Wenlong's understanding towards the first Concept, the Law of Burning Heat, had reached a completely new level.

After having a much greater assurance in himself, Huo Wenlong then went for a new test at the God Transforming Mirror. For this test, Huo Yu, Huo Ping, and the others were also participating.

Finally, Huo Yu managed to persist for three more incense sticks of time. As for Huo Ping, he managed to persist within for an extra half incense stick more of time.

As for Huo Wenlong, he lasted for another incense stick of time, reaching a total of four incense sticks of time.

Four incense sticks of time. Although he hadn't been able to defeat the first world, Huo Wenlong had found the key point to breaking past the first world.

Moreover, what delighted Huo Wenlong the most was that after breaking through four incense sticks of time, he had obtained an additional two day's time of meditation. Although this wasn't considered too long, every second was precious to Huo Wenlong. With this chance, he could again meditate on any problems that he had encountered during this new test round within the God Transforming Mirror.

“Seven days, no, five days, at most I need five more days to break through the first world! Nuyan Ming’s method of breaking through the first world should be different from mine. What he used should be absolute strength, but I use the impeccable Laws in order to do so. Although I’m slower than him by several days, in terms of the method of breaking through the first world, I should be even more skilled. The disparity between us shouldn’t be that great.”

Huo Wenlong repeated this to himself. He had never given up his thoughts of surpassing Lin Ming. If he ever lost that sense of pride, that natural dignity of his, then he would have lost everything.

Moreover, in the common opinion of the Realm of the Gods, Concepts and Laws were much more respected than absolute strength. This was because absolute strength became increasingly hard to enhance the further one went. But as for Concepts and Laws, the further one went, the closer one would approach the root of all energy in the universe, and their power would also exponentially grow.

“I will definitely emerge victorious. Affinity to fire is inborn; it is decided at a martial artist’s birth, depending on their physique and bloodline. It was extremely difficult to change. But, Concepts and Laws all depend on perceiving them under the heavens. The further I go, the greater my advantage will be. Although there is a gap that exists between us now, that doesn’t mean that this gap will remain in the future. If I give up now, then that is the same as admitting defeat!”

As Huo Wenlong thought this, he turned to walk back to his dimension to digest what he learned and to use the last two days as a chance to perceive more. But as he was leaving the hall, he saw Lin Ming walking in.

“That boy is also here to participate in the second test of the God Transforming Mirror?”

Huo Wenlong’s vision narrowed and his feet stopped as if they had rooted themselves to the floor. As he turned around, he saw that Lin Ming was indeed standing before the God Transforming Mirror. His arrival had also attracted the attention of Huo Ping and Huo Yu.

Lin Ming had closed up in a single go for so many days, and now he had finally emerged!

As old man Jun, who was responsible for administering the test, saw Lin Ming, he knowingly smiled. He took out a recording jade slip and said, “Begin.”

Chapter 733 – Second World of the God Transforming Mirror

Lin Ming slowly stretched out his hand and touched the God Transforming Mirror.

Everyone honed onto Lin Ming's every action and movement. Huo Yu and Huo Ping were silent, and even Huo Wenlong felt his heart hanging as he clenched his fists. As he saw Lin Ming fall into a trance, Huo Wenlong's eyes filled with a burning fighting spirit.

“Nuyan Ming, let me see just how much progress you've made!”

These 20 some years of his life could have been considered smooth sailing so far until he had been kicked down to the lower realms. Now, Lin Ming was the greatest opponent he had encountered yet.

Huu -!

Lin Ming arrived once again in the first world of Burning Heat. The sea of fire still billowed beneath his feet and the skies were still full of surging red clouds. As he looked up, he could see the red clouds shifting around according to the Laws and Concepts of Fire. As they reflected in Lin Ming's pitch black pupils, faint golden lines appeared, just like the totem seal engraved on the Heretical God Seed.

Lin Ming took a deep breath, stretched his body, and sank

downwards, bathing in the sea of elemental fire. He didn't feel the least bit of burning heat. Instead, he was like a fish swimming in the ocean, comfortable and satisfied.

A massive amount of fire energy gathered into Lin Ming's acupoints, flowing through his limbs and meridians before converging onto the Heretical God Seed. The crimson colored Heretical God Seed became even more dazzlingly beautiful.

Energy constantly gathered. The totem engraved onto the Heretical God Seed began to shine out with a brilliant golden light!

A vortex of energy formed within Lin Ming. As Lin Ming's dantian burned, the Black Hole Revolving Core in his body lit up with a scorching red flame!

40%... 50%... 60%...

As the fire energy within the Heretical God Seed reached 60%, Lin Ming's eyes flashed with a sharp light as if two bolts of lightning were contained within them.

60% capacity was enough!

Ca!

The red spear seemed to jump out from the spatial ring and into Lin Ming's hands. It was as if it had a mind of its own. Lin Ming's entire body burst into a conflagration of shining flames. The

Ancient Phoenix mark between his eyebrows seemed to come alive as a massive red phoenix soared out from Lin Ming directly flying into the horizon.

Bury the Heavens!

Lin Ming loudly shouted, his spear suddenly thrusting forwards.

In that moment, the surrounding power of fire seethed with lawless turmoil and the vast sea of fire beneath him was split asunder by his spear. A vortex of flame swirled back and a golden bloodline phoenix rushed out from between Lin Ming's eyebrows, fusing into one being with that red phoenix flying in the air.

At this time, Lin Ming had already become one with his spear. He was like a flaming meteor, racing across the skies and instantly flying out hundreds of miles away.

Ka ka ka!

Where the spear light traveled, space, red clouds, the sea of fire, everything was split in half by Lin Ming's spear!

Space collapsed. The turbulent space flow swept up together with the fire energy, turning into an endless black storm that blotted out the entire world.

Countless spinning space fragments shot out, completely breaking the void wherever they went. ...

...

Pa!

Outside of the God Transforming Mirror, with a light snapping sound, a web of cracks began to spread out from where Lin Ming's palm touched the mirror. It was like a small snake unfurling itself, instantly spreading half a foot!

Old man Jun's eyes instantly lit up. In 20 breaths of time, in just a mere 20 breaths of time, this young boy had broken through the first world! And looking at the extent of the cracks, the destruction of the first world was even more thorough than the last time!

This speed of progress was amazing!

"Nuyan Ming..." 100 feet away, Huo Wenlong gripped his fists together so tightly that they began to crackle. "He took just 20 breaths of time to break through the first world, but I could only last within for a few incense sticks of time before I couldn't withstand it anymore. Is the disparity between us really that great?"

If Huo Wenlong was once proud of how long he could stay within the first world, but now, staying in the first world for a long time was only his shame!

"He's depending on brute strength to break through the world

while I am relying on unraveling the laws in the crimson clouds of the first world in order to break through. Still, the difference shouldn't be so great!" Huo Wenlong clenched his teeth as he saw that Lin Ming was about to attempt the second world of the God Transforming Mirror. All geniuses had prideful hearts. To see a rival blossom in glory in front of them, that would obviously leave a bitter taste in their mouths.

"Brother Long, are you leaving?" As Huo Ping saw the Huo Wenlong was turning to leave, he caught up with him, "Where is Brother Long going?"

"Training! I'm going to close up!" A fire had been lit in Huo Wenlong's heart. "Rather than looking at other people's results, it's better to diligently train."

Huo Wenlong strode out, leaving a gulping Huo Ping by himself. Huo Ping decided to stay and observe Lin Ming so he could report the situation back to Huo Wenlong.

Huo Wenlong should at least understand his opponent.

As old man Jun saw Huo Wenlong's reaction, he remained expressionless. He only lit a sound transmitting talisman to inform Fairy Feng and the Timeworn Phoenix City Lord that Lin Ming had taken only 20 breaths of time to break past the first world.

At Nine Layer Tower, in the center of Timeworn Phoenix City, a tall red clothed man was sitting by an octagonal table, drinking tea. As he obtained this news, he placed his teacup down, his

eyebrows pricking up as he said, “20 breaths of time to break past the first world? Not bad!”

This tall red clothed old man was the City Lord of Timeworn Phoenix City.

“20 breaths of time in the first world – he should be able to experience the second world.” Fairy Feng said from across the red clothed old man.

“Hehe, the second world is where the true terror begins. How long do you think Nuyan Ming can last? I don’t think he’ll even pass five breaths of time in there.” The red clothed old man said as he leaned over to sip some tea, eyeing Fairy Feng.

“I can’t say...” Fairy Feng shook her head. “I’ll have to see. Perhaps he might last longer than you guessed.”

At this time, within the hall of the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming had already stepped into the second world.

The second Concept of Fire Laws – Annihilation!

Fire was the power of annihilation. It could burn down forests, burn down houses, and burn down lives. Even rock and steel and other inflammable objects would melt and vaporize as long as the temperature of the fire was high enough.

When fire reached the limit of its temperature, it could break

down everything into ions, twisting space itself!

Within the five elements, in terms of the power of annihilation, fire and thunder were the mightiest.

“This is the second world...”

Lin Ming discovered that he was standing on a bed of hot red molten rock. He was surrounded by great rivers of lava. Large chunks of dark red rocks floated in these rivers even as they seethed with heat, forming isolated islands or even more dangerous areas.

Plop! Plop!

Every bubble of air that popped up from the lava emitted a thick stench of sulfur. These gasses were astoundingly hot; a martial artist with insufficient cultivation would have their lungs burnt away.

As Lin Ming swept out his perception he became aware that this was no ordinary lava. This lava was at least 10 times hotter than lava from the mortal world.

Bang, bang, bang!

Lin Ming suddenly heard deafening sounds from above, like great thunderclaps. As he looked up, he could see that thousands of crimson shining lights lit up the sky. These lights were just like

vortal swords, shooting towards Lin Ming at incredible speeds.

“Those are meteors!”

Lin Ming sucked in a breath of cold air. He had seen a similar scene before in the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm. The power of these meteors, the density, and their speed was countless times higher than those meteors in the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm.

This was truly a world of the annihilating power of fire!

The sizes of the meteors were too massive. It could be said that the entire world was filled with howling meteors. To avoid them was impossible; he could only choose a relatively sparse location.

Bang!

The first meteor landed, smashing into the rivers of lava and raising waves of molten rock tens of thousands of feet high. The earth shattered and terrifying shock waves swept up, overwhelming the world and blotting out the sky. Lin Ming's complexion changed; there was nowhere to hide!

There were meteors that were dozens of feet, hundreds of feet, and even thousands of feet wide! Their power was just too horrible!

This was like the strike from a Supreme Elder from the Realm of the Gods. Although it might not directly strike Lin Ming, he still

couldn't withstand it if it landed near him. The power of these meteors was enough to destroy a great city large enough to house millions of people. Even if Lin Ming was a thousand feet away, he feared he would find it impossible to escape being injured.

For a moment, Lin Ming felt as if his chest had been struck. He desperately revolved all of his true essence to protect himself but he was still sent flying back like a piece of straw. His organs were messed up and he vomited a mouthful of blood. If it weren't for him having already opened the second of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates and also having eaten the profound gold divine fruit to temper his body, then this strike would have instantly flattened Lin Ming into a pulp.

Puff!

Lin Ming landed in the lava. In the area where the meteor landed, the surrounding rock islands in a radius of several miles had been blown away, leaving nothing else but a sea of lava.

With an extreme burning heat enveloping him, Lin Ming's body instantly ignited. The temperature here was far more terrifying than the first world.

Chaotic and tyrannical fire energy wantonly broke into Lin Ming's meridians. If it weren't for the suppression from the Heretical God Seed, Lin Ming would have been severely wounded from this alone.

Lin Ming grit his teeth, summoning his true essence and flew out

from the lava.

But before he could even catch his breath, another meteor had already smashed into the earth!

Without further ado, Lin Ming plunged back into the sea of lava.

Bang!

Even though he was deep in the lava, Lin Ming still couldn't block the incoming shockwave. He was tossed into the sky with the lava, vomiting great mouthfuls of blood that instantly charred to ashes in the air.

In the chaos, Lin Ming looked up into the sky. In the heavens, he could see a thick red fog that covered the world. Within this fog, there were massive chunks of crushed stone that burned brilliantly red like stars. These red stones spun around in the thick red fog, controlled by the mysterious rules of this world. As they moved, some scattered and some dispersed, forming meteors that then fell towards the earth.

This was the origin of meteors?

Lin Ming only saw this for several breaths of time before another group of meteors came falling down. A series of deafening explosions left Lin Ming's mind in a daze. The last meteor had nearly been half a mile wide, crashing down to the earth only 300 feet behind Lin Ming. At this time, Lin Ming could no longer bear

the explosive power of the meteors. His body was torn apart by the shockwaves, and in the next moment, he was thrust out from the God Transforming Mirror.

Lin Ming's face was pallid as he drew back. He was still able to recall the image of the sky in the second world. Without a doubt, it was impossible to use absolute strength to destroy the second world. This second world contained the Laws of Annihilation. Even though those meteors were so powerful, they still hadn't been able to destroy the world, much less something like Lin Ming's attacks.

“The disparity is too great. The second world is of a completely different rank from the first world. With my strength, how could I possibly break through it?

Lin Ming was completely unable to think of a method.

Chapter 734 – Heaven-Step Fire Essence

“Seven breaths of time, that’s also quite good. That’s two more breaths of time than what I estimated!” Within the Nine Layer Tower in the center of Timeworn Phoenix City, the City Lord smiled as he spoke.

“I never thought that 100,000 years after the Nuyan Family was destroyed, they could actually rely on the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm they left behind to find such a promising little boy like this Nuyan Ming. There must have been a great lucky chance that lead to his current results.” Fairy Feng tranquilly responded. It was far too normal for geniuses to come across lucky chances. Of those lower realm martial artists that were able to walk through the streets of Timeworn Phoenix City, 99% of them had come across some great lucky chance. As for the Realm of the Gods martial artists, although they might not have encountered some lucky chance, the truth was that being born in the Realm of the Gods itself was already a kind of lucky chance.

As for those Supreme Elders in the Realm of the Gods, it wasn’t strange for them to encounter many lucky chances. Instead, it would be stranger if they hadn’t.

The Timeworn Phoenix City Lord said, “Who cares about his lucky chances? What I like is this boy’s will. Haven’t you discovered that his will far surpasses the ordinary person? Of will, talent, and perception, the further down the road of martial arts you go, the more important will and perception become. I’m feeling good about this boy. Perhaps in the distant future, he might have a small chance of becoming an Elder level character with the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan.”

“I will give him some more resources to support him and then see just how he grows! If we interfere with him too much, it might actually negatively affect his destiny instead...”

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As Lin Ming drew back from the God Transforming Mirror, old man Jun said with a satisfied expression, “You lasted in the world of annihilation for seven breaths of time. You have obtained the qualifications to perceive the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone for four days. In addition, since you defeated the first world the first time, that is another seven days of meditation. That is a total of 11 days that you may use.

As old man Jun spoke, Huo Ping was scared silly.

11 days!

He only earned the qualifications to perceive through meditation for three days. Huo Yu had earned four days, and Huo Wenlong had earned five days. The three of them together only then more or less matched Lin Ming’s time.

Moreover, when that old man Jun said that Lin Ming still had seven days from breaking through the first world, that meant that he hadn’t even used his allotted time from before...

He hadn’t even used his time and yet he had already made such

progress? After he used his time, then wouldn't he be even more of a freak!?

Huo Ping gulped. He took out a sound transmitting talisman and passed on the news before leaving.

Just as Huo Wenlong was about to enter his dimension, a flame flashed in front of him and he heard Huo Ping's message. His eyelids twitched and then he pinched the sound transmitting talisman to pieces.

Gritting his teeth, Huo Wenlong stepped into his own dimension and immediately began training.

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At this time, Lin Ming had already gone towards the Sky Corridor. He was prepared to meditate on the Burning Heaven Totem Stone. 11 days' time was enough for his understanding of the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone to go up to yet another level.

Just as he was about to open the spell binding the door to the Burning Heaven Totem Stone's room, a true essence sound transmission suddenly sounded out in his ear, "Nuyan Ming, come to the central tower of Timeworn Phoenix City."

Lin Ming was startled. He had been at Timeworn Phoenix City long enough to know that the central tower was the City Lord Mansion of Timeworn Phoenix City.

Was this Senior Fairy Feng?

Lin Ming pondered over this for a moment before walking towards the central tower. In just an incense stick of time, he arrived at his destination.

The central tower had nine floors, and every floor was 111 feet high, so the total height was 999 feet. The Ancient Phoenix Clan worshiped the number nine.

After 9 was 10. After 99 was 100. After 999 was 1000. Nine naturally returned to one, symbolizing Samsara.

From nine to one, this was representative of a phoenix being reborn through nirvana.

When Lin Ming reached the central tower, there was already a guide waiting for him at the bottom. The guide brought Lin Ming directly to the top of the ninth floor.

Lin Ming opened a wooden door made from 10,000 year parasol tree wood. As Lin Ming entered the hall, he saw a woman in a red dress sitting on a phoenix throne. Next to her was an old man with red hair.

The red dressed woman looked between 30-40 years old, but her entire body emitted a noble and grandiose aura. As for the red haired old man, although he seemed shabby, his eyes actually

shined with a dazzlingly sharp light.

Lin Ming was completely unable to see through the cultivation of these two.

“Junior Nuyan Ming greets the Seniors.”

Lin Ming respectfully bowed. He had already guessed the identity of these two. The red dressed woman was the Supervisory Elder, Fairy Feng, and the old man was the City Lord of Timeworn Phoenix City.

“Nuyan Ming, you should have already guessed my status. I am the Supervisory Envoy of Timeworn Phoenix City, Fairy Feng, and by my side is the City Lord of Timeworn Phoenix City, Guru Blueflame. My Timeworn Phoenix City is one of the three king level smelting trial sites that the Ancient Phoenix Clan within the Realm of the Gods set up in the lower realms. Besides us, there is also the Sacred Flame Phoenix City and Fuxi Phoenix City. As someone who comes to my Timeworn Phoenix City, you can be considered a disciple of my Timeworn Phoenix City. The two of us have a touch of fate with you. We have watched your test within the God Transforming Mirror and your results were excellent. However, you must remember that the universe is limitless; there are always higher peaks and those above you! You must not slack off! As a martial artist from the lower realms, you are far from reaching the standard of the Realm of the Gods. The vast world of the Realm of the Gods far surpasses anything you could imagine!”

“Yes, this disciple will remember this.” Lin Ming bowed. In truth, he didn’t need Fairy Feng to remind him of this; he was well

aware of just how horrifying the Realm of the Gods truly was.

Three thousand boundless worlds, a total of one billion worlds, was constantly sending outstanding elites to the Realm of the Gods. As for the Sky Spill Continent, the world was ruined in some catastrophe 100,000 years ago, causing it to fall from the once lofty heights it enjoyed. Thus, the other worlds probably sent up even more geniuses than anyone could imagine.

If one outstanding elite flew up every 100 years, then out of a billion worlds, in just 100,000 years, a trillion geniuses would ascend!

Moreover, these individuals were all geniuses amongst geniuses, unrivaled powerhouses of their era that stood at the very pinnacle of their worlds!

And besides these people, those from the Realm of the Gods were even more terrifying! Those people were the descendants of Supreme Elders from the Realm of the Gods; their starting points were far greater than the martial artists from the lower realms.

This Timeworn Phoenix City that he had come into contact with couldn't even be considered the tip of the iceberg of the Realm of the Gods.

“Very good. As a disciple of my Timeworn Phoenix City, it is my responsibility to give you guidance. That being the case, I shall now give you two lucky chances.” As Fairy Feng spoke she flicked her finger and two red lights flew into Lin Ming's hand.

This was a jade slip and a jade box.

Lin Ming glanced through the jade slip. This was also a detailed record of experiences regarding the Fire Laws, but its level of exquisiteness and profoundness far surpassed the jade slip that Fairy Feng had bestowed upon him earlier. It seemed that these two jade slips came from the same origin; there were many places that they confirmed and filled in the blanks of the other. If he could meditate on both of these together, then he would have twice the results with half the effort.

Fairy Feng said, “This is a jade slip left behind by an Elder of the Ancient Phoenix Clan before he underwent nirvana. He was also my first mentor. Now, I allow you to temporarily use this for reference. However, you must return this jade slip to me before you leave Timeworn Phoenix City.”

As Lin Ming listened to this he was stunned. This was a relic left behind by Fairy Feng’s first mentor? Then, the degree that Fairy Feng valued this jade slip could be imagined.

Lin Ming deeply bowed, marking this kindness in his heart.

Although Fairy Feng said that directing him was her responsibility, to him, this was a massive lucky chance.

“It is better to walk than to read. This records in this jade slip are only for you to reference. Only when you begin to comprehend your own style will you gain the ability to reach higher boundaries

of martial arts. But, there is also another lucky chance. Open it up and take a look.”

“Yes.”

Lin Ming reverentially put away the jade slip and opened the jade box.

As the jade box opened, a rich fire energy escaped. An explosive burst of animus filled the air, as if it wanted to tear Lin Ming apart.

In that moment, the Heretical God Seed began to faintly tremble; it seemed to be extremely excited. Lin Ming was floored. Could this be...

Flame Essence!?

Lin Ming looked down. Within the jade box, there was a cocoon that glowed like a fire burning in the center, lighting up the outside with a crimson brilliance.

This was really a Flame Essence! Not just that, but it was an extremely high ranking one!

Fairy Feng said, “This is a medium-grade heaven-step Flame Essence called the Burning Star Flame. It will be greatly beneficial to you for perceiving the Concept of Annihilation.”

Burning Star Flame...

Lin Ming's eyebrows shot up. To burn down a star; that was pretty boastful.

Fairy Feng noticed what Lin Ming was thinking and faintly smiled. She said, "The name of this Flame Essence only represents how it was formed, not its level. Although the Flame Essence in your hand is named the Burning Star Flame, the truth is, that its level is too low to burn down a star. Above a Flame Essence is the even stronger Flame Elemental. To the present you, absorbing this medium-grade heaven-step Flame Essence is also very reluctant. This is already considering that your compatibility with fire is extremely high; you are far from the level of being able to come into contact with a Flame Elemental.

As Lin Ming heard Fairy Feng speak, he was suddenly enlightened. The Fallen Star Flame that he had already absorbed was a Flame Essence that was produced during the landing of a meteor. The rank of Flame Essence that a small meteor could form was naturally low. But, if it was formed when two stars collided, then it was hard to imagine just what rank of Flame Essence would be born.

Although there were very harsh conditions for the formation of a Flame Essence, the universe was so vast that the total number of Flame Essences was extremely terrifying. Moreover, once a Flame Essence was born, it was extremely difficult to destroy. After accumulating for several hundred millions of years or even billions of years, the number of Flame Essences would reach impressive figures.

Fairy Feng said, “The Annihilation World within the God Transforming Mirror is not something the Burning Heat World can compare with. Above Burning Heat is Annihilation. You can give up any idea of breaking through the Annihilation World with absolute strength alone. You must thoroughly comprehend the Fire Laws in order to do so.

“Absorbing the Burning Star Flame will be helpful to you perceiving the Laws of Annihilation. But remember, a Flame Essence is like a weapon; it is only an external factor. Your will, your understanding of Laws, those are your greatest strengths. If you can persist within the Annihilation World for 20 breaths of time, then come back and look for me. I will then give you some more guidance!”

“Yes, Senior.” Lin Ming deeply bowed again before excusing himself.

He didn’t go to the Sky Corridor to meditate on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone again. Instead, he returned to his own dimension, sealed the door and began his closed door seclusion.

Lin Ming took out the sealed jade box from his spatial ring.

A medium-grade heaven-step Flame Essence!’

Towards Fairy Feng, this was nothing at all. But, if this were placed in the Sky Spill Continent, it was enough to drive every fire-attribute Life Destruction martial artists crazy. Even fire-attribute

Divine Sea Supreme Elders would be red-eyed with jealousy.

“Above a Flame Essence is actually a Flame Elemental...” Lin Ming took a deep breath. This was also within his expectations. Just like how a Saint artifact was above the rankings of treasures, the nine grades of Flame Essences only matched those of the lower realms. Within the Realm of the Gods, there were naturally more powerful and terrifying existences.

“I wonder how much my strength will increase after I absorb this Burning Star Flame?” Lin Ming took a deep breath, his eyes shining with excitement.

Chapter 735 – Peak of the Middle Revolving Core Realm

Lin Ming sat down and began to undo the seal on the Burning Star Flame.

There were a total of nine seals. Even when Lin Ming had only undone three seals, the entire jade box directly melted into a puddle and extraordinary heat waves flooded the air. Luckily, Lin Ming was in his own dimension; if he was in a house, then he feared the entire structure would have been set ablaze.

As the seventh and eighth seal were undone, the Flame Essence blazed with a blinding light. He could feel a scorching pain in the retinas of his eyes.

Finally, Lin Ming undid the ninth seal. Purple red flames instantly soared upwards for several moments, gathering into a mass of burning purple flames that howled in the air, as if it were a ferocious monster.

There was a deep rumbling sound as if a meteor were crashing into orbit from tens of thousands of miles in the air, whistling as it tore through the atmosphere, dragging a raging tale of flames behind it.

“So this is the Burning Star Flame.”

Lin Ming looked at the brilliant mass of flames that twisted in

front of him. In the center of this cluster of flames, there were a number of purple stripes with deeper hues that revolved in the center.

Lin Ming's mind stirred and he touched his perception on these purple strips. He discovered that these purple strips was fire energy so highly concentrated that it had become liquid.

This was a phenomenon that would only occur with a heaven-step Flame Essence. And beyond that, once flames reached the level of a Fire Elemental, the fire energy would solidify into a crystal core of fire energy as if it were a true seed.

After absorbing this Flame Essence, a trace of the Flame Essence's energy would remain in his body, becoming energy that nourished his Revolving Core, helping it to grow even more.

Of course, this was only if one's comprehension of Laws was high enough and if one's Revolving Core foundation was solid enough. Otherwise, it would easily lead to instability.

Normally speaking, a martial artist could only have one Flame Essence within them. In order to absorb a new Flame Essence, they would have to discard the old one. To discard a Flame Essence that they had raised and fused with for more than a year, that would naturally cause one to lose a certain portion of their strength. But Lin Ming had no such problems.

With the Heretical God Seed, he could continue to freely absorb Flame Essences.

With a deep breath, Lin Ming directly pressed that mass of purple flames towards his heart. As it touched his body, the purple flames sent out a deafening roar that echoed through the world, the volume ten times louder than before. It was like an ancient great beast existed within the flames, roaring as it faced Lin Ming, unwilling to be swallowed up just like this.

Lin Ming coldly snorted and began twisting his fingers together. True essence erupted and layers upon layers of nearly endless true essence locked onto that group of purple flames with the Laws of Fire supporting it.

Roarr!

The Burning Star Flame seemed to have a consciousness of its own. It began to crazily struggle against Lin Ming's shackles. In the instant that it touched Lin Ming, the Heretical God Seed began violently trembling, releasing faint cries like an awakening dragon. The Burning Star Flame appeared as if it had encountered its absolute nemesis and suddenly appeared much more despondent.

Hu hu hu -!

The Heretical God Seed formed a massive vortex that ruthlessly sucked up all the fire energy from the Burning Star Flame. Even so, a massive amount of fire energy escaped outwards, filling Lin Ming's limbs and body with a magma like heat.

Sweat rapidly dripped down from Lin Ming's forehead. This

brutally sadistic energy was to a degree he could completely withstand.

In the end, Fairy Feng had underestimated Lin Ming's ability to control fire energy, and this was because she didn't know about the existence of the Heretical God Seed. She had also misjudged the speed at which Lin Ming comprehended Fire Laws with the help of the Heretical God Seed.

Even if it were a higher level Flame Essence than the Burning Star Flame, Lin Ming also had a certain confidence that he could successfully absorb it.

Of course, the main reason that Fairy Feng gifted the Burning Star Flame to Lin Ming was to help him in understanding the Concept of Annihilation. The rank of the Burning Star Flame was not that important to begin with. A Flame Essence was only an external force; it could be replaced at any time in the future.

But, Laws and Concepts were different, they were something that truly belonged to oneself. From this alone, this Burning Star Flame suited Lin Ming far more.

Without knowing how much time had passed, a faint red light began emitting from Lin Ming, covering him in layers like a cocoon and completely enveloping him.

As the Heretical God Seed absorbed the power of fire, the Black Hole crystal core in Lin Ming's dantian was also recklessly swallowing the power of fire. Although Lin Ming had just broken

through to the middle Revolving Core realm not too long ago, his foundations were unbelievably solid. After being repeatedly baptized by the energy of Timeworn Phoenix City and beginning to comprehend the source Laws, his cultivation speed had reached an astonishing rate. He was rapidly approaching the late Revolving Core realm.

2 hours... 4 hours... 6 hours...

After half a day passed, the energy within Lin Ming's body began to churn violently. The absorption of the Burning Star Flame had reached the final stage. The fire energy within his meridians and dantian had been compressed into essence. If a normal Revolving Core martial artist wanted to absorb a heaven-step Flame Essence, that would simply be suicide. So much energy in their bodies would cause them to burst open, dying in a bloody and horrible manner.

After an hour passed, Lin Ming's eyes suddenly shot open, his eyes like sharp swords that pierced through the void.

“Gather!”

Boom!

A tide of red energy erupted outwards from Lin Ming, causing the space around him to vigorously shake. Lin Ming's body turned clear red as if he were formed from a blood agate.

At this point, he had completely absorbed the Burning Star Flame.

Lin Ming let out a light breath; his entire back was soaked in sweat. Just absorbing the Burning Star Flame would have left him exhausted. But as he absorbed the Burning Star Flame, he had also borrowed its energy to nourish his dantian. The difficulty of doing both these things together was much greater.

In terms of his dantian, the Revolving Core crystal nucleus had become a size larger and it also spun around at a higher speed. Although he hadn't been able to break through to the late Revolving Core realm, the difference wasn't too great. Lin Ming's cultivation now rested at the peak of the middle Revolving Core realm.

On the other hand, near his heart, the Burning Star Flame had been completely absorbed by the Heretical God Seed, turning into a crystal core that shone like a star. It revolved around the Heretical God Seed. The lower level Flame Essence that he had absorbed before, the Earthcore Crimson Flame and the Fallen Star Flame, had all been completely absorbed by the Burning Star Flame, turning into smaller star-like crystal cores that spun around the Burning Star Flame.

It was as if the Heretical God Seed were the sun, the Burning Star Flame was a planet, and the Earthcore Crimson Flame and Fallen Star Flame were moons. These sort of revolution matched the movements of the heavens, faintly interlinking with the Laws of the heavens.

“Peak of the middle Revolving Core along with a medium-grade heaven-step Flame Essence added in. With the Flame Essence as a reference for the Law of Annihilation, I should return to the Sky Corridor to meditate on the Burning Heaven Totem Stone there. 11 days later, when I return to attack the second world of the God Transforming Mirror again, I wonder just how far I would be able to go?

Lin Ming gripped his fists together and headed towards the Sky Corridor.

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“My apologies Sir Nuyan Ming, the Sky Corridor’s Burning Heaven Totem Stone training chamber is currently occupied. There should still be half a day until it is open again. As Lin Ming arrived at the Sky Corridor he was stopped by a guard.

“It’s no problem. I’ll wait.”

“Mm... according to the records, Sir Nuyan Ming, you have... 11 days of meditation time?” The guard was surprised for a moment. A double digit figure of 11 days was quite exaggerated. “Sir Nuyan, may I inquire as to how many days you would like to register for?”

“All of it!”

Li Ming said without hesitation.

“All of it? Are you sure?” The guard was startled. A martial artist normally cherished every chance, every second they had to meditate on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones. They would meditate on them for 3-4 days at a time and then leave to absorb what they learned, only then returning again to meditate on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stones some more. The guard never imagined that Li Ming would use 11 days in a single breath. To undergo high intensity enlightenment for 11 days was difficult; it would easily lead to wasted time.

“Yes, I would like to use all my time!” Lin Ming said, without a trace of doubt in his voice.

“Alright.” The guard recorded down the time.

Lin Ming sat in meditation outside of the Sky Corridor. After a period of time, someone finally walked out from the Burning Heaven Totem Stone chamber, looking a bit reluctant. This other martial artist was at the Life Destruction realm.

Lin Ming expressionlessly walked into the chamber, beginning his 11 days of enlightenment.

On the totem stone, those hundreds of small flames that combined into infinite mysteries were still as enigmatic as before.

Underneath Lin Ming’s gaze, these flames seemed to dance, their ghostly movements swaying along to the Heavenly Dao Laws that he witnessed in the World of Annihilation.

All the images reflected in Lin Ming's pupils before being engraved onto the golden totem on the Heretical God Seed, permanently recording themselves there. But near the Heretical God Seed, from the crystal core formed by the Burning Star Flame and also from the golden totem, a faint red light began to shine...

Time slowly passed. Lin Ming was like a sculpture as he sat unmovingly in front of the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone.

Three days, five days, seven days, nine days...

"Oh? That little fellow Nuyan Ming used up his entire 11 day enlightenment period all at once?" In the center tower of Timeworn Phoenix City, Guru Blueflame had just obtained this news. Although he had taken a slight fancy towards Lin Ming's potential, that didn't mean he would always be concerned about him.

Yes, it's been nine days already. I was just informed of this matter. Using up 11 days at once isn't too wise. Separating the days and using the spare time in between to figure out the problems would have a much better effect." On the other side of Guru Blueflame, Fairy Feng pressed her slender eyebrows together.

"That's the normal case, but this Nuyan Ming kid isn't stupid. He definitely knows what is best for himself and he certainly has his own ideas about what he is doing." Guru Blueflame indifferently said as he took a sip of tea.

Fairy Feng slightly nodded. "That's true, but I only fear he is too

confident in himself. Eleven days all grouped together! Even if his perception his high, he would simply exhaust his mind, leading to fatigue. Three days ago, Huo Wenlong also defeated the first world, and he did so by thoroughly comprehending the Laws of power there, finally reversing the revolution of Laws so that the fire energy caused the world to collapse from the foundation onwards. This method of breaking past the first world is even more sophisticated than what Nuyan Ming did...”

“Hahaha!’ Guru Blueflame placed his cup of tea down, laughing. “From your words, it seems as if you’re worried that someone will surpass Nuyan Ming. Huo Wenlong is also a disciple of my Timeworn Phoenix City. It’s good for both of them if there’s a bit of friendly competition. Then again, it’s far too early for Huo Wenlong to think of defeating Lin Ming; he can only last for three breaths of time in the second world...”

“Mm... I wonder what sort of results Nuyan Ming will show this time.” As Fairy Feng thought this, she was actually anticipating his progress.

Then, two more days passed.

“The time has come, please exit!”

A voice like a thunderclap sounded out in Lin Ming’s ears, startling him from his meditative state. Slowly, his eyes opened. In that moment, the inverted images of the evolution of celestial bodies appeared in his eyes. Countless stars falling from the heavens, burning, combusting, exploding with the power of fire, directly impacting into the endless blue skies!

“11 days, I wonder with my current understanding towards the Concept of Annihilation, just how long can I last within the God Transforming Mirror?”

Lin Ming took a deep breath and stood up. He had made many comprehensions within the God Transforming Mirror that he wished to verify for himself.

Chapter 736 – Leaving Seclusion

“Oh? Nuyan Ming has left seclusion?”

In Timeworn Phoenix City, the other martial artists had already heard this news. There were even some martial artists that had returned to Timeworn Phoenix City a second time for the smelting trial that were piqued by Lin Ming’s situation.

“I wonder if Nuyan Ming will go directly to the God Transforming Mirror...” A martial artist said, his voice tinged with envy and worship.

“He should go close up for another period of time. There are many martial artists that will have numerous new comprehensions after enlightening themselves with the totem stones. They need to thoroughly digest everything they’ve learned so that their grasp of it is greater.”

“How long will Nuyan Ming last this time? Can he break through the second world?”

“Break through the second world? Don’t be silly, how simple do you think the second world is. The God Transforming Mirror has a total of nine different worlds. If you can break through the sixth and seventh, then your power is equivalent to a Holy Lord. If you break through the ninth then you are the incarnation of a fire god. If you want to break through the second world, you would need strength at least equal to a Divine Sea powerhouse from the mortal worlds. Nuyan Ming is talented, but his cultivation is only at the

Revolving Core realm; how can he possibly break through the second world already? If he can last for a few breaths more of time then that's believable, but anything beyond that would be too freakish."

"Power to contend with a Divine Sea powerhouse from the mortal worlds?" The martial artists present were startled as they heard this. Although the mortal worlds were nothing compared to the Realm of the Gods, a Divine Sea powerhouse was still a top level existence within those lower realms and they were still at a level that these young martial artists couldn't match yet.

As everyone was discussing Lin Ming, they actually received the news that he had gone straight to the God Transforming Mirror!

He didn't go back into seclusion but instead rushed directly there!

"This Nuyan Ming fellow is too confident in himself!

"I wonder what he managed to comprehend these past 11 days. I really envy him!"

Besides masters like Lin Ming and Huo Wenlong, most martial artists here didn't have the chance to close up for such a long period of time. In fact, they had very few chances to enlighten themselves with the totem stones. When they could no longer perceive the Laws through meditation, they could only come out from their dimensions and watch the revolution of energy Laws of Timeworn Phoenix City, obtaining some minor understandings

from experience.

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At the entrance to the God Transforming Mirror's hall, old man Jun smiled as he looked at Lin Ming and said, "You came straight here instead of closing up for some more?"

Lin Ming replied, "These past days, this disciple has a few things that he wishes to try. I can't wait any longer."

In these past 11 days, Lin Ming had achieved an extremely high degree of understanding towards the Concept of Burning Heat and had even seen through the next level to the Concept of Annihilation. With so many new comprehensions, he wanted to determine whether these were true or not and could only do so by testing them in the world of the God Transforming Mirror.

Although Lin Ming was well aware that his progress would be even better if he closed up some more, to Lin Ming, this sort of progress wasn't important. What was important was enhancing his understandings of Laws and Concepts.

"The God Transforming Mirror is in use. It will be ready in less than an hour."

In Timeworn Phoenix City, there was only a single God Transforming Mirror and all the martial artists needed to use the God Transforming Mirror in their smelting trial. Although the

time for each use was very short, one would often encounter a situation in which the God Transforming Mirror was being occupied by others.

After calmly waiting for an hour, old man Jun lit up a sound transmitting talisman to Fairy Feng, informing her that Lin Ming had come to the God Transforming Mirror.

This was the first smelting trial test after Lin Ming came out of seclusion. Thus, he naturally attracted the attention of a massive number of martial artists.

However, Huo Wenlong and Huo Yu hadn't come. After all, looking at someone else bathe in glory wasn't too comfortable for them, not to mention that Huo Wenlong was also in seclusion perceiving the Laws too.

With a hand touching the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming instantly entered into a trance.

“First world, break!”

In the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming grasped his red long spear and immediately used Bury the Heavens. By consuming just 40% of his strength the first world directly collapsed around him!

In just six breaths of time, he had broken through the first world!

Old man Jun's eyes brightened. This was a result that defied the

will of the heavens!

At the location where Lin Ming's palm touched the God Transforming Mirror, a small crack appeared. This crack was even larger than the last one; it was nearly a full foot long.

Six breaths to break through the first world, creating a crack in the mirror a foot long...

The martial artists who witnessed this were dumbfounded. Lin Ming's progress was simply too quick. None of them could think of catching up to him so they simply didn't bother comparing with him.

“The second world!”

Lin Ming stood at the bank of roiling rivers of lava. As he looked to the sky, the vast expanse of the heavens was covered in a chain of red stars. Giant meteors were born from this chain of stars, howling as they came crashing down!

This world held the Annihilation Concept of Fire. The power of space in this world was nearly indestructible. With Lin Ming's strength, he couldn't even shake it, much less tear it apart. If he wanted to destroy this world then he could only rely on the Law of Annihilation to reverse the chain of stars, breaking the balance between those glowing red lights and cause the world's power of annihilation to implode in on itself, eventually collapsing.

But Lin Ming's understanding towards the Concept of Fire hadn't reached such heights yet, his understandings of the Laws weren't even close. Not just that, but his strength was insufficient to reverse the chain of stars to begin with, so breaking the second world was simply a dream.

The reason he came to this second world was to substantiate the comprehensions he had made.

Woosh!

The first meteor came howling down, dragging a long tail of flames behind it. Lin Ming had no intention of dodging it. This rain of meteors was simply too dense. No matter where he tried to hide, he would still be caught up in the shockwaves of the explosions.

Lin Ming flourished his long spear, the image of the falling meteor reflecting in his ink black eyes.

Bang!

The meteor crashed into the ground. The earth was torn apart and massive amounts of lava sprayed into the air, raising giant waves thousands of feet high!

As the shockwaves recklessly burst out, the images of the dancing flames of the Burning Heaven Totem Stone appeared in Lin Ming's mind. Burning Heaven Totem Stone, annihilation of the heavens,

the most exquisite Law contained within it was the Concept of Annihilation!

“Break for me!!”

Lin Ming gave a loud shout. The long spear in his hands was like a red flood dragon as it pierced forth. An azure spear light followed behind it, directly impacting into violent waves of lava!

A flash like a birthing sun shined out. In that instant, the waves of flames were split apart by Lin Ming!

In terms of strength, these meteors that were hundreds of feet wide and had power comparable to that of a Supreme Elder from the Realm of the Gods. Even the shockwaves were not something that Lin Ming could withstand.

However, what happened was that Lin Ming had torn apart these shock waves, opening a haven of safety for himself within the raging energy.

This was the cleverness of Laws. If Lin Ming could thoroughly realize the Annihilation Laws of the second world then he could rise from weakness here and find a path to live.

After breaking apart the first waves of turbulent lava, Lin Ming's face flushed red with blood. Without even time to catch his breath, there was another deafening explosion as the second meteor impacted the ground!

Lin Ming summoned his true essence, raising his spear.

Chasing Sun!

With a spear thrust, he flew ten miles across the skies. The surging seas of lava were once again pierced through by Lin Ming.

Then, the third meteor!

This meteor was far larger than the last two meteors; it was nearly half a mile wide. When it crashed into the ground the entire earth shook and countless shattered stones and even the core of the world itself seemed as if it would be destroyed. Lava shot up, reaching into the heavens. As Lin Ming faced these turbulent waves of flames, he released the Heretical God Force to its limit. The Heretical God Seed howled as compressed true essence poured out!

Bury the Heavens!

A spear thrust out. Lin Ming reversed the power of space, and with his understanding of the Concept of Fire, this nearly 1000 foot wall of lava was torn apart by him!

In these three penetrating attacks, Lin Ming had consumed a great deal of energy. But, his ability to restore himself was similarly astounding. Lin Ming thrust forth his spear the fourth time – Penetrating Rainbow!

Bang bang bang!

Meteors continued to howl as they came roaring down. The earth was torn apart, hundreds of massive pits appearing in the ground. All of the rock islands had long been crushed to bits. Lava rained down on everything, covering the world!

Strike after strike came piercing out. Lin Ming was like a flood dragon swimming in a sea of lava. Chasing Sun, Chasing Thunder, Penetrating Rainbow, Bury the Heavens, all of these moves were used repeatedly again and again!

And this entire scene fell into Fairy Feng and Guru Blueflame's eyes.

"This boy, he's using the meteor shower in the God Transforming Mirror's second world as a place to gain experience." Guru Blueflame smiled, his tone filled with appreciation.

Out of Lin Ming's various moves, the truth was that Chasing Sun was the most suitable for breaking through the Concept of Fire. Chasing Sun was itself a move purely based off the Concept of Fire and its strength was decent too.

As for Bury the Heavens and Penetrating Rainbow, while these moves were stronger, the use of energy was also that much greater. In an extended battle, Lin Ming should have used Chasing Sun in order to minimize the amount of energy used and make the

greatest progress.

But Lin Ming didn't do this. From Chasing Sun to Bury the Heavens, he used different moves every time. He even used Chasing Thunder which didn't have a matching Concept during the weaker shockwaves.

This was because only when one used different moves in different situations would one have a more profound comprehension of the Annihilation Laws. He did this all in order to verify the truths he had comprehended in the Sky Corridor.

Doing this would certainly cause a far greater consumption of energy and affect his final results to a certain degree. If Lin Ming was a vain person who only desired fame, then he wouldn't have done as such.

Guru Blueflame and Fairy Feng were both characters that had lived for over 10,000 years. With their vision, they naturally saw what Lin Ming was attempting. Thus, this was why Guru Blueflame appreciated Lin Ming's decision.

"20 breaths of time. Nuyan Ming's endurance is far better than what I imagined." Fairy Feng generously praised.

"Mm... his endurance comes from his body transformation achievements. A dual cultivation of body and essence.. there aren't many heroic young elites in the Realm of the Gods that would attempt this. To reach this step at such a tender age, he must have experienced a great deal of pain but also a great deal of lucky

chances. I think that he shouldn't be able to last much longer. Perhaps up to 30 breaths of time."

As Guru Blueflame and Fairy Feng spoke, several more breaths of time passed. Lin Ming had already consumed 60% of his true essence. His forehead was dripping with large beads of sweat and the Ancient Phoenix flame mark between his eyebrows was dark red like blood.

Bang!

Another meteor half a mile wide smashed into the ground. Lin Ming's body was tossed up like a leaf. As he drew back he thrust out his spear several times, demolishing the shockwaves of flames. However, the aftershocks still rushed into his meridians, minorly wounding him.

25 breaths of time, 26 breaths of time, 27 breaths of time... 30 breaths of time!

The meteor shower became increasingly dense. Lin Ming's pupils were filled with the phantom of flames. The red long spear in his hand was scorched deep red, and even though Lin Ming was proficient in the Laws of Fire, there were still multiple burn wounds on his body.

31 breaths of time, 32 breaths of time...

Lin Ming's inner true essence rapidly depleted!

When one had 100% of their physical strength remaining, it was possible to easily defeat an opponent. However, when one only had 20-30% of their strength remaining, even if they gave it their all they still might not be able to wound their opponent, and they would even consume more strength at a faster rate.

At 33 breaths of time, a massive meteor nearly a mile wide came crashing down. For a time, it was like the sea of lava completely flipped upside down. The sky turned completely red and the lava nearly reached the chain of stars hanging in the heavens.

Lin Ming could no longer withstand this. His vision went black and he instantly passed out.

Final result – 33 breaths of time!

Chapter 737 – The Final Test

A result of 33 breaths of time was astonishing, but to the martial artists who hadn't yet experienced the second world, it wasn't as horrifying as they thought. This was because they could only contrast this with Huo Wenlong's result of three breaths of time.

33 breaths of time to 3 breaths of time, that was a difference of eleven times.

“Nuyan Ming, come to the Nine Layer Tower in the center of Timeworn Phoenix Tower.” As Lin Ming withdrew from the God Transforming Mirror, Fairy Feng's true essence sound transmission sounded in his mind.

“Yes, Senior.”

Lin Ming nodded. Before this, Fairy Feng had bade him to see her again once he could surpass 20 breaths of time in the second world.

...

...

Fairy Feng was wearing a red dress as before. Every movement she made gave off a noble, lofty temperament. Her appearance was that of a 30-or 40-year-old young married woman, beautiful, curvaceous, and in the prime of her life. But the truth was that she was an existence that had been alive for over 10,000 years.

Fairy Feng raised her hand and several red lights shot into Lin Ming's palm. When Lin Ming looked down, he saw that they were three array discs and a jade slip.

“Take a look.”

Lin Ming nodded and input some true essence into one of the array discs. A phantom scene suddenly popped up, playing in the air. Meteors came crashing towards the earth, dragging long tails of flame behind them. And in the sea of lava, a young, red-clothed man stood there, a long spear in his hand as he faced the might of the world alone.

Bang!

A meteor smashed into the ground. Waves of roiling lava shot up into the sky, but that red-clothed youth calmly broke through the waves, his clothes not even disturbed in the least, an easygoing look on his face.

This person was...

Lin Ming's eyebrows shot up. In this scene, this red-clothed youth's comprehension of the Laws far surpassed him.

Lin Ming continued to watch. The more he saw, the more charmed he became. It was only after an incense stick of time passed that the images were interrupted.

“Senior, the person in this scene is...”

“This is from tens of thousands of years ago, the scene of my Honorable Master in the second world of the God Transforming Mirror. Now, this array disc will be lent to you. I hope that you will be able to obtain some insights from it. But remember. What others have comprehended may not necessarily be suitable for you. You must form your own comprehensions from this array disc.”

As Lin Ming heard this he felt overjoyed. He would be able to obtain a great deal of inspirations from this array disc. He gave a deep bow and reverentially said, “Thank you for your guidance, Senior.”

“Mm...there are also two other array discs. Take a look at them.”

Lin Ming activated the second array disc.

Another series of phantom images appeared. This was still the second world of the God Transforming Mirror. But the character in this scene was a red-dressed woman; she looked somewhat similar to Fairy Feng. Upon closer inspection, this was actually a scene of a younger Fairy Feng in the God Transforming Mirror’s second world.

Lin Ming took a deep breath, feeling grateful to Fairy Feng from the bottom of his heart.

Fairy Feng said, “This is a recording of my experience in the God Transforming Mirror’s second world. Compared to my Honorable Master, I am much more foolish and slower than him. Still, this should be of some help to you. These two array discs will be lent to you for month. Afterwards, return them to me. As for the third array disc and also that jade slip, they are gifted to you. Go ahead and take a look at them.”

Lin Ming activated the third array disc. He thought that this would be the phantom images of another senior in the God Transforming Mirror, but he never thought that it would actually be the scene of himself within the second world.

Lin Ming was happy and surprised. If he could watch his own moves from the vantage point of a spectator, then it would be easier to find any problems, not to mention that he also had Fairy Feng and her Honorable Master’s array discs as a reference comparison.

As for that last jade slip, Lin Ming swept his perception through it. There were only several hundred words written inside in Fairy Feng’s writing. The notes pointed out some deficiencies in his moves. Fairy Feng must have casually written them down after watching him in the second world just a while ago.

What sort of unbelievable cultivation boundary was Fairy Feng at? Even if she casually gave him some pointers, this was still enough to give him a great deal of inspiration.

“Nuyan Ming, I wrote down ways to correct some of your problems in that jade slip. But I hope that you do not look at this

jade slip at the start. Instead, look at the three array discs to improve yourself first. Enlightening yourself and understanding your own style will give you the most profound advantage. As for the words I have written, lay them down for now. I hope that by the time you have finished meditating on the array discs and looked at the jade slip, you will have discovered that you have already corrected the problems listed within.

“Well. This is the limit of guidance I shall give to you for now. Go back and close up. By the time you have been at Timeworn Phoenix City for 100 days, there will be a messenger from the Realm of the Gods coming down to inspect the situation of your smelting trial. When that time comes, I hope that you will be able to show excellent results. Someone from the Realm of the Gods will take a look at your assessment three times. At 100 days, 200 days, and 300 days. The first assessment at 100 days is the most difficult. If you can show amazing results, then that will also be your final assessment and you may obtain the rewards for completing the first stage of the king level smelting trial as well as returning to your Sky Spill Continent. At that time, your fate with me shall be considered finished. In the future, if you enter into the Realm of the God Ancient Phoenix Clan, then perhaps we shall also have a chance to meet again.”

“Now leave!”

“Yes, Senior. Senior, this junior shall forever engrave this kindness into my heart.” Lin Ming was very grateful to Fairy Feng and Guru Blueflame for their guidance. For them, these were only minor matters not even worth mentioning. Perhaps every time they meet a good seedling in a round of the smelting trial they would also do these things. But for Lin Ming, this help would allow

him to lay a much more solid foundation in a shorter time, allowing him to achieve more magnificent results in the future.

Lin Ming bade Fairy Feng farewell. Then, he returned to his own dimension and sealed it with a spell, adamantly putting out a notice that he would refuse all visitors as he started his closed-door seclusion.

Three phantom image array discs, the several jade slips that Fairy Feng had given him containing experiences of Laws and Concepts, as well as what he had learned from meditating on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone.

All of this required time to fully absorb.

For a month and a half, Lin Ming completely isolated himself, no longer going out.

During this time, Lin Ming's progress was slower than when he had meditated on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone. However, this was ultimately the process of consolidating his foundation.

As Lin Ming meditated on the Fire Laws, a faint trace of this source energy was kept in his dantian, constantly nourishing the Revolving Core there.

After 50 days passed, Lin Ming still hadn't taken a single step out of his dimension. During this time, Huo Wenlong had already managed to persist for 20 breaths of time in the second world, Huo

Yu for 10, and Huo Ping had also just managed to break through the first world. Up to now, five martial artists had managed to break through the first world. Besides Lin Ming, every single other person was a martial artist from the Realm of the Gods.

On the 55th day of Lin Ming's seclusion, a red spirit boat appeared in the skies above Timeworn Phoenix City. This spirit boat was half a mile long, and images of phoenixes undergoing nirvana in a sea of fire were engraved onto the hull. The spirit boat was pulled by nine golden crows, releasing phoenix-like cries as they flew, emanating a grandiose aura.

The spirit boat stopped above the Nine Layer Tower at the center of Timeworn Phoenix City. A man wearing red armor and carrying a golden war lance stepped out.

"Haha, old buddy, you've come to personally manage the assessment this time?" From within Nine Layer Tower, Guru Blueflame flew out to greet the spirit boat. He was apparently old friends with this red-armored warrior.

The red-armored warrior loudly laughed. He said, "Blueflame, Long time no see! You're looking so much better already!"

"Bah, what are you talking about? This old man is always looking great!" As Guru Blueflame spoke, he actually sighed with emotion. "Ever since I was injured in the war with those other clans, I've been slowly recuperating in Timeworn Phoenix City, giving some casual pointers to these juniors. I've only returned to the Realm of the Gods three times in the last 3000 years. I'm afraid I haven't seen you for an entire 2000 years!"

“Close enough, time passes too fast!” The red-armored warrior sighed, a hint of sadness tinting his voice. He was over a twelve thousand years old. In the blink of an eye, 2000 years had passed; it was natural to feel surging emotions. “Have your old wounds recovered yet?”

“They’re no longer a problem. Although this old man can’t rebirth myself in a nirvana of flames, recovering from some old injuries isn’t a problem.” Guru Blueflame stroked his beard, laughing as he said, “That’s right, you’re here this time to manage the 100 day assessment?”

“That’s right. I just had a sudden inspiration to see if there were any good seedlings about. After they mature in the future, perhaps they might join my army!” The red-armored warrior was an army general from the Ancient Phoenix Clan in the Realm of the Gods. If there were any outstanding young elites here who wanted to join the army, they would naturally come under his command.

“Speaking of good seedlings, there really are a few here. Huo Yu and Huo Wenlong are both from the Huo Clan. Huo Yu can now last for 10 breaths of time in the second world and Huo Wenlong can last for 20!”

“20 breaths of time?” The red-armored warrior didn’t seem surprised. He nodded and said, “That’s nothing impressive, but it’s not too bad either.”

The red-armored warrior’s frigid and imperious tone was well

within Guru Blueflame's expectations. He laughed, saying, "Old buddy! Ahh, your judgement is too high! This is the lower realms, not the Realm of the Gods. But still..."

As Guru Blueflame spoke here, he deliberately drew out his words, tempting the red-armored warrior and stirring his interest. It was only then that he said, "Speaking of someone more outstanding than Huo Wenlong, there really is someone like that. Nuyan Ming is from the lower realms but now he is able to persist in the God Transforming Mirror's second world for 33 breaths of time.

"33 breaths of time?" The red-armored warriors eyebrows pricked up, but there still wasn't any surprised expression on his face. "That's decent, but not too surprising. I can only say that perhaps there might be some hope in this assessment."

"Hehe." Guru Blueflame revealed an expression that he had already anticipated this reaction. With a great deal of satisfaction he said, "What I mentioned was his last result. But recently he has closed up in seclusion. After he exits, you can take a long, hard look at just how good his performance is. Perhaps after he enters the Realm of the Gods, he won't bother to join your army as cannon fodder!"

As the red-armored warrior listened to Guru Blueflame talk, he glared back and said, "What are you saying? My army is comprised of elites of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. How could they possibly be cannon fodder? In fact, this time, when I went to Sacred Flame Phoenix City, I did indeed find a good seedling willing to join my command in the future!"

“Sacred Flame Phoenix City?” Guru Blueflame curled his lips in disdain. “Are you talking about that little loser city in the middle of nowhere? Heh, all they produce is a few big kittens every year. How could they possible compare to my Timeworn Phoenix City? I can hold my hands behind my back and still defeat them!”

Sacred Flame Phoenix City and Timeworn Phoenix City were the same; both of them king level smelting trial sites in the lower realms. Naturally, these two king level smelting trial sites were ruthless in fighting each other for the top position, none willing to admit they were inferior to the other. Generally speaking, Timeworn Phoenix City had the most minor advantage, but it wasn't as exaggerated as Guru Blueflame mentioned.

The red-armored warrior thought this was quite funny. He said, “Leather can't be broken by blowing through it. That youth truly is excellent. He managed to last in the second world for 45 breaths of time. In addition, he also made good progress in the 100 day assessment.”

Chapter 738 – Blood of the Ancient Phoenix

“45 breaths of time?” As Guru Blueflame heard the number ‘45’ he felt his heart thump for a moment. What horrible luck! 45 breaths of time was already defying the heavens. How could Sacred Flame Phoenix City have been such lucky bastards and picked up such a talented person this time around?

In the lower realms, there were three king level trial sites of the Ancient Phoenix Clan – Fuxi Phoenix City, Timeworn Phoenix City, and Sacred Flame Phoenix City. It was already very rare for a talent like Huo Wenlong to be produced. But to last for 45 breaths of time before the 100 day assessment, that was even rarer.

After 30 breaths of time, the meteors that came falling from the sky would vastly increase in terms of force. When Lin Ming had reached 33 breaths of time, he had perished there because he had encountered a giant meteor nearly a mile wide.

If a meteor’s diameter increased from half a mile to a mile, the weight would be nearly eight times that of the original! Thus, the explosive impact force would also increase by nearly eight times.

Thus after 30 breaths of time, the difficulty would increase at an exponential rate.

As for how long Lin Ming could last in that situation, Guru Blueflame lacked assurance in his heart.

“How about it, eh? Not bad, right? After this young man that can

last for 45 breaths of time reaches the Divine Sea and ascends into the Realm of the Gods, he will join under my command as a soldier.” A faint smile hung on the red armored warrior’s lips as he waited for Guru Blueflame to wither away.

“45 breaths of time isn’t even worth a fart. Nuyan Ming can easily accomplish that.” Since he had already started bragging, Guru Blueflame naturally had to hunker down and continue until the end.

“Heh, this old fellow would rather die than lose face.” The red armored warrior secretly mused to himself. The corners of his lips curved up in a smile. “How many breaths of time do you think Nuyan Ming can last for then?”

“At least...” As Guru Blueflame spoke to here, he made some grabbing motions with his hands, “at least 50 breaths of time!”

Guru Blueflame didn’t dare to exaggerate too much. In his opinion, 50 breaths of time was still very possible.

“Hehe, since you’ve said so then if it is any less you must bring out your 30,000 year vermillion fruit wine so that us brothers can drink a cup together.” The red armored warrior said as he licked his lips. He was, after all, a lover of wine, and Guru Blueflame’s 30,000 year vermillion fruit wine had been brewed and kept in a cellar for over 30,000 years. It could be said to be a top-grade wine.

“F*ck you! You want to rob me while my house is on fire? I’ve kept that wine for over a thousand years without bearing to drink

any of it!” Guru Blueflame shouted. The two of them had a very good relationship together, thus they would play such jokes on each other.

At this time, a clear and delicate voice rang out, “General Smoke, how about I make a bet with you? If I win, then you will reward Nuyan Ming some of the Ancient Phoenix bloodline according to regulations. How about it?”

The red armored warrior looked up and saw the red dressed Fairy Feng standing not too far away, a pleasant smile on her face as she looked in his direction.

The red armored warrior quickly stood up and cupped his fists together in greeting, “Since Fairy Feng has spoken, then if Nuyan Ming does indeed show outstanding results, according to clan rules I can indeed apply for a corresponding Ancient Phoenix bloodline reward...”

“Then I thank you very much.” Fairy Feng faintly smiled. These recent years, the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan had become increasingly strict regarding control and distribution of its Ancient Phoenix bloodline resources. Without the red armored warrior’s application, it was truly hard to obtain some.

In any case, Lin Ming was a heroic young elite from her Timeworn Phoenix City. In the future, if Lin Ming even had a faint chance of becoming an Elder of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, then that was a matter worth celebrating for Timeworn Phoenix City.

“General Smoke, since that’s the case, I shall then start the smelting trial.” Fairy Feng stood up, leading the red armored warrior over to the hall of the God Transforming Mirror.

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“Nuyan Ming, the 100 day assessment from the Realm of the Gods has begun!”

Inside his dimension, Lin Ming heard a true essence sound transmission echo in his ears. Lin Ming had closed up in seclusion for over 50 days, meditating over the various Laws, array discs, and jade slips. He had already passed the time limit for the items that Fairy Feng had lent to him, but she didn’t seem to have any intention of taking them back, instead she let Lin Ming meditate on them until today when the 100 day assessment of the Realm of the Gods had begun.

Lin Ming awoke from his enlightened state. As his eyes opened, they seemed to flash with a faint light of the Laws.

“How long have I been in meditation?”

“You’ve immersed yourself in the ethereal martial intent for 55 days already. Altogether, it has been a total of 100 days since you’ve come to Timeworn Phoenix City!” Within Lin Ming, Demonshine’s soul slowly answered him.

“55 days... got it.” Lin Ming stood up. The 100 day assessment

could be said to be taken at the 100 day mark, but the truth was that it could be done ahead of time. Some martial artists in the king level smelting trial would apply to take the 100 day assessment at only 70 to 80 days in, finishing it and completing this stage of the king level smelting trial.

The earlier the assessment was, the more difficult it became. To complete the smelting trial at 70 days was much more dazzling than doing so at 100 days.

Afterwards, at the 200 day assessment, the difficult would again drop down a scale. As for the 300 day assessment, that wasn't even worth mentioning.

By the time Lin Ming arrived in the hall of the God Transforming Mirror, old man Jun, Fairy Feng, Guru Blueflame, and even Huo Wenlong, Huo Yu, and the others had all gathered there.

Lin Ming noticed that there was a red armored martial artist standing in front of the God Transforming Mirror, smiling at him. Without a doubt, this person was the messenger from the Realm of the Gods.

After Lin Ming came, more and more people began to stream in. These were all the most outstanding disciples currently in Timeworn Phoenix City. As for the others who hadn't been able to break through the first world yet, they didn't even have the qualifications to take this 100 day assessment.

“Everyone, I shall first make introductions...” When everyone

finally arrived, old man Jun stood up, “This is Guru Blueflame, the City Lord of Timeworn Phoenix City! This is Fairy Feng, the Supervisory Envoy of Timeworn Phoenix City! And this is General Smoke, a messenger from the Realm of the Gods, as well as the official who will be conducting this 100 day assessment!”

Old man Jun introduced everyone one at a time. Lin Ming had already seen Guru Blueflame and Fairy Feng so he wasn't too surprised but the other disciples were bewildered. Whether it was the Timeworn Phoenix City City Lord or the Supervisory Envoy, both of them were extremely top level characters.

To see such legendary characters, this naturally gave birth to a sense of excitement in their hearts.

The red armored warrior known as General Smoke faintly smiled and said, “Everyone here are the most outstanding young heroes of this year's smelting trial. My management of the assessment is extremely strict. To be honest with all of you, your chances of passing this assessment are close to zero. But, the truth is that this is unimportant. This assessment is mainly to decide your current smelting trial situation, and my score will also be added to your final results. In the future, if you decide to serve in my Ancient Phoenix Clan then this score will become a reference of your strength.”

As the red armored warrior spoke, the several martial artists from the Realm of the Gods became nervous. If this score was included in their final result then that means it would also be noticed by their various family clans. This would greatly affect their future development, for better or for worse.

“First of all, all of you shall undergo a test in the God Transforming Mirror. Only those that can last for 15 breaths of time in the second world have the qualifications to continue with the assessment.

As the red armored warrior said these words, Huo Ping, and the other martial artists’ hearts instantly dropped to their stomachs. They also knew what was happening here. Besides Huo Wenlong and Nuyan Ming, everyone else had basically only been called over to increase numbers and embarrass themselves.

One only had the qualifications to start the assessment if they could last for at least 15 breaths of time in the second world? Huo Ping had just broken through the first world 10 days ago. It would already be a miracle if he could last 3 to 4 breaths of time in the second world.

The other disciples from the Realm of the Gods with results similar to Huo Ping also had bitter expressions. After all, this assessment simply didn’t have anything to do with them at the moment.

“The test begins.” As old man Jun announced this, he then stepped forwards and called out the names of Huo Ping and two other disciples from the Realm of the Gods. The three of them had only been called here to draw up the numbers. One of these three had only just broken through the first world yesterday.

These three people stepped forwards to carry out the test.

However, no miracle occurred. None of them were able to last past 5 breaths of time and all of them were eliminated.

Old man Jun was not surprised at any of these results. Although he knew perfectly well that all of them would fail, this was also a very good smelting trial chance for them. This test would broaden their horizons, preventing any pearls of regret from surfacing in the future.

“Now then... Nuyan Ming, Huo Wenlong, Huo Yu, come up.”

Within the entire Timeworn Phoenix City, there were only six martial artists that had broken through the first world of the God Transforming Mirror. Two smelting trial tests, that was just enough for three trial challengers each.

Whether it was Huo Wenlong or Huo Yu, both of them were uptight and apprehensive. This assessment would affect their future status and their trajectory in their clan.

Lin Ming was the calmest. He didn't care too much about the result. After going into seclusion, he had gained a great deal of comprehensions and wanted to confirm them in the God Transforming Mirror.

Just as Lin Ming arrived in front of the God Transforming Mirror, a true essence sound transmission suddenly sounded out in Lin Ming's ear. “Young boy, I am Guru Blueflame. I know that the last time you went in the God Transforming Mirror you were testing out your moves so your result wasn't as high as it could

have been. Now, this old man will be frank with you. You are currently the leading star in my Timeworn Phoenix City. I want to ask you to honestly and completely display your full strength and use your abilities to their greatest effect, lasting as long as you can. I want this fellow from the Realm of the Gods to see just how fierce my Timeworn Phoenix City is. If you can't last for 50 breaths of time then this old man will come stir up trouble with you!"

Lin Ming had wanted to confirm some truths about his moves, but after hearing Guru Blueflame's true essence sound transmission he was surprised. He didn't even have time to respond before Guru Blueflame continued to say, "It doesn't matter if you test your moves here; there will be time in the future assessments for you to experiment. Moreover, Fairy Feng has already applied for some blood of the Ancient Phoenix for you. Whether or not you can obtain any, all of this will depend on your own abilities!"

What!? Blood of the Ancient Phoenix!

Lin Ming was shocked. "Is this blood of the Ancient Phoenix to be transplanted into this junior?"

"Of course! What else do you think it is for? Of course, this is only if you have a good performance!"

Hearing Guru Blueflame's confirmation, Lin Ming glanced at Fairy Feng and saw that she was giving him an encouraging smile. Lin Ming's mind immediately filled with a brilliant fighting spirit. Although he had the support of the Heretical God Seed, his bloodline was constantly becoming an increasingly great weak

point. If he could obtain more blood of the Ancient Phoenix, then his ability to perceive the Fire Laws would be astronomically better!

It seemed that in this test he would have to put forth his true and greatest strength. As for confirming truths of Laws he had learned, that could all be placed on the backburner.

“Test, begin!”

As the red armored warrior spoke, Lin Ming, Huo Wenlong, and Huo Yu all placed their hands on the surface of the God Transforming Mirror.

“First world, break!”

Lin Ming was in a trance for merely three breaths of time before the smooth surface of the God Transforming Mirror cracked underneath his palm like a growing spider web. The first world had already been easily broken by him!

General Smoke’s eyes shined, “He used absolute strength to break through the first world, and moreover he only needed three breaths of time. This boy is quite interesting!”

“Hehe, just you wait and see!” Guru Blueflame said with a content smile. “If this boy lasts less than 50 breaths of time then I’ll take out my vermillion fruit wine. But if he does, then don’t think of keeping any of your own wine collection!”

Chapter 739 – 50 Breaths

General Smoke was a connoisseur of wine. Naturally, he also had his own vintage collection. Guru Blueflame had also been longing for a taste test of this collection for a very long time. As soon as Lin Ming broke through the first world in three breaths of time, Guru Blueflame was immediately energized, thinking that he could gain some benefits from General Smoke.

“Alright, I do have a 10,000 year fog flower wine that I’ve been keeping around; it’s also a top class wine. If what you said is true, then I’ll take out this wine to celebrate such a rare joyous occasion in your Timeworn Phoenix City that you’ve managed to produce a passable heroic young elite.”

“What kind of joyous occasion are you talking about? Humph, your filthy mouth can never speak anything good. My Timeworn Phoenix City has always produced excellent talents!”

“Hahaha, Old Blueflame, don’t be in such a hurry to argue. It’s true that Nuyan Ming broke through the first world in three breaths, but that was just relying on absolute strength, not the power of Laws. A Revolving Core martial artist’s absolute strength won’t go so well in the second world!”

“We’ll see about that!”

The God Transforming Mirror was an illusory magic array that used the mysteries of the Chaos Stones as its basis. If one was skilled in the source of Fire Laws, then they could use their divine

sense to search the God Transforming Mirror and watch the scene of the trial challenger within.

At this time, in the second world of the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming was facing a pack of meteors that came howling down towards him.

Penetrating Rainbow, Bury the Heavens, Chasing Sun, Chasing Thunder; of these four moves, the best ones to break through the Concept of Annihilation was Chasing Sun. As for Bury the Heavens and Penetrating Rainbow, they were indeed powerful, but the consumption was far too great. As for Chasing Thunder, that move involved a completely different type of Concept.

According to Guru Blueflame's thoughts, Lin Ming would use Chasing Sun until the very end. However, Guru Blueflame never imagined that as the first meteor landed and caused massive waves of turbulent lava to rise up and plunge towards Lin Ming, He would only casually thrust out his spear, not even using any special move but still breaking through the shockwaves of fire, safely making it through.

“This young fellow has made a great deal of progress these past 55 days!”

Guru Blueflame's eyes lit up, joy filling his heart. He was looking forwards to seeing just what sort of result Lin Ming would be able to obtain.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Meteors fell down one after another, each of them half a mile wide. The explosive shockwaves were no threat to Lin Ming at all. With a simple spear thrust, he easily ablated the waves of fire. After 10 breaths of time passed, Lin Ming was still filled to the brim with energy.

“Haha, how about that! Even under the oppression of the Annihilation Laws, he’s not even breaking a sweat! This boy still has many ultimate moves that he hasn’t even used yet!” Guru Blueflame proudly said.

General Smoke faintly smiled, “Don’t be so happy yet. The first 20 breaths aren’t too hard. Later, the shower of meteors will become increasingly dense and the size will also grow larger. After 30 breaths of time, the meteors will each be a mile wide. After 40 breaths of time, the meteors will be two miles wide. At that time, the difficulty will truly grow, and the real show will begin.”

In an instant, 15 breaths of time passed. At this time, another half mile wide meteor came crashing down. The rock island that Lin Ming had stood on had been completely sundered by the meteors, melting into the vast sea of lava. As he faced shockwaves that had become several times more powerful, Lin Ming held up his spear, his body like a leaf in a storm as he was sent flying back by the shockwaves. As he retreated, he casually stabbed his spear out, every spear strike glowing with a deep azure light. Every strike easily pierced through the chaotic flow of fire energy. After drawing back several thousand feet, Lin Ming was completely unharmed. Using a minimal amount of energy, he had completely resolved the shockwaves of the explosion.

“He broke through? Even a half mile wide meteor couldn’t force out this Nuyan Ming’s martial skills.”

As General Smoke saw this, his expression finally changed. In every half mile meteor, the turbulent energy shockwaves afterwards weren’t easy to deal with. The fact that Lin Ming could use such a minor amount of true essence to break through them was incredible.”

“That azure light, it’s as if it’s a... battle spirit!”

General Smoke’s eyes widened. When this battle spirit attached to the long spear, it caused the striking power to be even greater and even more focused, allowing Lin Ming to break through the energy shockwaves with the least amount of energy used. He couldn’t help but praise this level of strength.

In fact, not only was General Smoke shocked, but Guru Blueflame and Fairy Feng were also surprised, “This boy has already comprehended a battle spirit, moreover it’s already reached the small success stage of the bronze level!”

This was the first time that Lin Ming had used his battle spirit in the Annihilation World of the God Transforming Mirror. Until this point, Guru Blueflame and Fairy Feng had no idea that Lin Ming had a battle spirit.

Fairy Feng said, “In the last smelting trial test, Nuyan Ming wanted to verify his power of the Laws, thus he didn’t use his

battle spirit. If he did use it at that time, then he would have lasted even longer!”

A battle spirit had no connection to the Concept of Fire. Lin Ming only wanted to understand the Laws he had comprehended in the God Transforming Mirror. Although using a battle spirit would have gotten him a better result, a better and more glorious result was not important to him at all.

Of course, this time was different. For that all important blood of the Ancient Phoenix, Lin Ming decided to go all-out!

For those heroic young elites in the Realm of the Gods, comprehending a battle spirit in the middle Revolving Core realm wouldn't be considered a monstrous genius at all. But, to have a small success bronze level battle spirit at this stage, that was actually terrifying!

This proved that Lin Ming had already formed his own battle spirit for a long time now, perhaps even when he was only at the Xiantian realm!

Only by forming his own battle spirit at the Xiantian realm would it have grown along with his cultivation, finally reaching this current level!

Fairy Feng sucked in a deep breath. She didn't expect that Lin Ming's will was so astounding!

“This is ridiculous! If Nuyan Ming really comprehended a battle spirit during the Xiantian realm, then that means that his heart of martial arts and will is extraordinary!”

To a martial artist, one’s will was no less important than their understandings of Concepts and Laws. Thus, a martial artist with a strong will was extremely respected.

General Smoke was quietly recording the entire test in an array disc, “This boy, if he can really last 50 breaths of time, then in light of him comprehending a battle spirit at the Xiantian realm, that alone is enough for him to receive a great deal of focus from the clan!”

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Meteors continued smashing into the earth. Azure light wrapped around Lin Ming’s long spear. No matter how monstrous those waves of fire were, Lin Ming still didn’t need to use his martial skills.

With just a tiny bit of true essence, coupled with his battle spirit and his profound understanding of the Laws and Concepts of Fire, this was more than enough to deal with the current situation!

By not using martial skills, he would save the most energy. This would allow Lin Ming to retain enough strength to face the bigger meteors ahead.

At 30 breaths of time, a mile wide meteor came roaring down, dragging a tail of fire behind it. As soon as it smashed into the earth, the explosive shock wave seemed to sweep up the entire sky. Lin Ming's vision widened. Without hesitation, he flourished the long spear in his hands.

Chasing Sun!

The highly compressed true essence in the Heretical God Seed erupted outwards. Lin Ming became one with his spear, shooting through the skies like a divine arrow. With a single thrust, he moved dozens of miles forwards, directly piercing through the walls of flames!

This was the first time he had used his full strength. In addition, because he had used Chasing Sun, his consumption of energy was still small.

It had taken a full 30 breaths of time before Lin Ming was compelled to use a martial skill. When Lin Ming turned serious, his comprehensive combat strength startled even Fairy Feng.

“Old friend Blueflame, it looks like you are right. Now, it seems that I will most likely lose my fog flower wine. Not only is this brat's comprehension of Laws pretty good, but what is even rarer is that his will is extremely firm! If he doesn't lose himself to his own arrogance then he will surely rise in the future!” General Smoke praised without hesitation. Losing some of his precious wine was only a joke between friends. He was also happy to see a rising talent among the juniors.

“Mm, this boy is to my liking. When he ascends to the Realm of the Gods, he can also be considered a follower of my Timeworn Phoenix City. Haha, I’m really looking forwards to his growth!”

As Guru Blueflame and General Smoke talked, Huo Wenlong and Huo Yu withdrew from the God Transforming Mirror.

Huo Yu had just managed to last 15 breaths of time. As for Huo Wenlong, he lasted up to 28 breaths of time.

After retreating from the God Transforming Mirror, Huo Wenlong’s first reaction was to glance over at Lin Ming. He saw Lin Ming standing still before the God Transforming Mirror, stable and calm, as if he were a great mountain that had existed there since eternity.

As he looked over at Guru Blueflame, Fairy Feng, General Smoke, and old man Jun, he discovered that none of them had even bothered to glance at him. All of them were completely focused on Lin Ming. Even Huo Ping and the others were intensely concentrated on Lin Ming. Huo Wenlong suspected that there wasn’t even anyone that recorded his result.

How could he possibly feel any better with this?

“Nuyan Ming... you closed up for 55 days in a single go and today you return to the God Transforming Mirror. This time, I want to see just how long you can last and whether or not our disparity has changed!”

Huo Wenlong grit his teeth. This time, he didn't leave midway. Rather, he sat down where he was, waiting for Lin Ming to complete his test.

.....

Woosh!

Within the God Transforming Mirror, another giant meteor crashed into the ground. Without batting an eye, Lin Ming used Chasing Sun once again!

Strike after strike, a crimson ray of light flashed forwards for several dozen miles, cutting a path through the clear blue skies!

At this time, Lin Ming had only used Chasing Sun a total of five times. As he simultaneously poured his battle spirit into Penetrating Rainbow, the power of his attacks rose precipitously!

36 breaths!

37 breaths!

38 breaths!

40 breaths!

After crossing the 40 breaths of time threshold, the shower of meteors became even denser. This time, almost every meteor that hurtled down was over a mile wide!

Lin Ming revolved the Heretical God Force to the limit. Bright red flames wrapped around his entire body as a blazing azure true essence erupted from him. At this time, he could no longer keep his calm. With absolute power, while simultaneously using the power of Laws, he forcefully broke through the explosive shockwaves of the meteor's fall!

At 49 breaths of time, a mile and a half wide meteor came howling down!

Compared to a mile wide meteor, this meteor's detonative energy was three times greater.

Bang!

The earth was torn asunder and the entire world burned in an inferno of blazing red. In this terrifying storm of energy, he grasped his spear, the power of fire and the power of space revolving and twining together on the tip.

Bury the Heavens!

This was Lin Ming's strongest move. But even though it was his strongest move, he was still completely unable to compare with

the horrifying explosive shockwaves of the meteor. Lin Ming gave a loud shot and the flame totem on the Heretical God Seed began to shine with a golden light, just like the resplendent eyes of an Ancient Phoenix!

By relying on his understanding of the Fire Laws, Lin Ming strenuously broke through the shockwaves of flame, his face flushing red with blood.

After breaking past the explosions of this meteor, 50 breaths of time had passed!

“He really passed 50 breaths of time! This Nuyan Ming still has energy left!” General Smoke let out a long breath. 45 breaths of time and 50 breaths of time seemed to only be separated by 5 breaths, but the truth was that the difference was enormous. In the God Transforming Mirror, every 10 breaths was a new level. The difficulty would increase at an exponential rate!

“Can he possibly pass 60 breaths of time?” General Smoke muttered to himself. But at this time, in the skies, several even greater meteors were being born. Among these meteors, there were even some that were wider than two miles that were being slowly formed.

Chapter 740 – Reverse the Chain of Stars

A two mile wide meteor didn't sound that much larger than a half mile wide meteor, but the truth was that it weighed 64 times greater.

64 times more weight also meant 64 times the striking intensity. Using the Revolving Core realm and the Life Destruction realm as examples, a small boundary meant that there was only a total true essence quantity difference of several times.

In other words, if this two mile wide meteor and half mile wide meteor were compared to a martial artist's attacks, then the former would be one or two great realms higher!

Facing a half mile wide meteor, Lin Ming didn't even need to use a martial skill to easily break through the shockwaves.

And then facing a mile and a half wide meteor, Lin Ming needed to use his strongest move, Burying the Heavens.

And now, facing a two mile wide meteor, even Bury the Heavens was only barely able to withstand the explosive shockwaves!

Once he was injured, then even if he could resist the next attack, the continual barrage of two mile wide meteors would inevitably defeat him.

Seeing this, whether it was General Smoke, Guru Blueflame, or

Fairy Feng, all of them opened their eyes wide, waiting to see just how Lin Ming would withstand this attack.

“Nuyan Ming’s luck is too poor... normally, two mile meteors would only appear in the second half of the 50 breaths...” Fairy Feng muttered to herself.

“I thought that 60 breaths of time were a bit too forced, but still, this Nuyan Ming is already impressive enough. This strike will truly surpass the abilities of a middle Revolving Core martial artist to resist. Once Nuyan Ming is injured, he won’t be able to last much longer. His limit should be 55 breaths of time. 55 breaths of time is already an incredible result!” General Smoke said with appreciation.

Guru Blueflame stroked his beard, a bit of regret in his eyes. 55 breaths was indeed an excellent result, but 60 breaths of time would have been even more shocking. If Lin Ming’s luck was just a bit better then he might even be able to pass 60 breaths of time!

“Haha, Blueflame, aren’t you satisfied yet? Your Timeworn Phoenix City has hit the jackpot this time, and my fog flower wine is already waiting.”

Boom! Boom! Boom!

In the skies, countless shards of stones formed a chain of stars that revolved according to the mysterious rules of the world, constantly gathering rocks together, binding them and giving birth to new meteors. Here, two mile meteors formed, wrapped in a hazy

fog of fire. As long as they fully formed, they would be driven by the annihilation energy, rapidly crashing down at extreme speeds!

But at this moment, Lin Ming suddenly raised his head and looked towards the heavens. Within the pupils of his two eyes, the mystical power of the stars and the Laws of revolution in the world were reflected. Within Lin Ming's body, the Heretical God Seed howled and the compressed fire true essence began gushing out like a rising tsunami.

Lin Ming's two feet tread the sea of raging lava. Holding the red long spear in his hands, his body shot up like a rising star!

The high pitched keen of a phoenix's cry resounded in the world. Between Lin Ming's eyebrows, the mark of the Ancient Phoenix began to shine with a blinding golden light. A massive red phoenix shot out from Lin Ming's body, directly impacting into the horizon.

Bury the Heavens!

Lin Ming thrust out his spear. Space collapsed and countless space shards flew out, spinning along with the power of fire and intertwining with it, forming a black storm vortex of flames.

This vortex was like a black dragon that shot into the skies, breaking apart all that fiery fog!

As General Smoke saw this, his eyes brightened. What was this

boy trying to do? Could it be...

Bang!

The black vortex finally struck the chain of stars. Compared to the vast chain of stars that was like an endless ocean, the attack was just like a tiny trickle of water, simply nothing to mention. However, unbelievably, while this attack appeared trivial, due to the force of some mysterious Law, a path was cut through the revolving region of the chain of stars, interrupting it!

Next, a stupefying scene occurred. In the fog of fire where the meteors were being born, the Laws suddenly reversed. Not only did the crushed stones stop gathering together, but instead countless stones flew off from the surface of the meteor, causing it to constantly reduce in size!

When the meteor finally separated from that fog of fire and howled down, its size was already reduced by a mile and a half in size!

Eventually, it turned from a massive meteor to a slightly larger one. The explosive aftermath was completely broken through by Lin Ming's Bury the Heavens!

“This is... reversing the chain of stars!!?”

General Smoke, Guru Blueflame, and Fairy Feng were all shocked. To reverse the chain of stars... this proved that Lin Ming

had already touched upon the method to break past the second world. He still had a long way to go from actually doing so, but he had still managed to touch upon it! And this was with a cultivation at only the middle Revolving Core realm!

“Nuyan Ming has already begun to touch upon the nature of the Annihilation Laws. Although it’s just a bit, everything is difficult at the beginning. His future achievements in the Concept of Fire will not be low at all.” General Smoke had seen countless heroic young elites grow up. By just looking at Lin Ming, he could judge his future trajectory to a certain extent.

“Indeed. But what I find strange is if Nuyan Ming could reach this step so quickly, why would his comprehension of Fire Laws at the beginning be so different when he first arrived?” Fairy Feng asked, puzzled. When Lin Ming had just arrived, his comprehension of Fire Laws really left one speechless. He had only been equal to a 13 to 14 year old child.

“It’s not as if he’s being lazy. Haven’t you discovered that this boy Nuyan Ming, besides Fire Laws, also has pretty good accomplishments in Space Laws and Thunder Laws. Not just that, but he follows a dual body and essence cultivation process and has also formed his own battle spirit. How old is he? And yet he has already perceived so many things! Even if he didn’t eat or sleep, it would still be nearly impossible to perceive all of this!”

Hearing General Smoke speak, Guru Blueflame became irritated, “Humph, this boy is a muddle. He could be considered part of my Ancient Phoenix Clan, but instead of fully focusing on perceiving Fire Laws he actually spent so much time on other things! How

absurd!”

Fairy Feng smiled, “Comprehending a single Law isn’t enough. Comprehending multiple Laws and being able to fuse them together, that will allow his power to increase by several folds. For instance, when Nuyan Ming broke through the meteor’s shockwaves just now, he had fused Space Laws and Fire Laws together...”

As these Supreme Elders discussed, several more breaths of time passed. At this time, nearly 60 breaths of time had passed.

The reason that Lin Ming was able to comprehend the Fire Laws so rapidly was mainly because of the Heretical God Seed. On the surface of the Heretical God Seed, within that golden flame totem, the principles of Fire Laws had been engraved there. By relying on this, Lin Ming’s speed at perceiving the Fire Laws was astronomical.

Bang bang bang!

Meteors exploded one after another. Lin Ming was always paying attention to the changes in the chain of stars within the heavens. Once the meteors began to approach two miles in width, he would then interrupt the path of the chain of stars with Bury the Heavens, breaking them ahead of time!

However, by repeatedly using Bury the Heavens, in addition with the massive gravity of this world, Lin Ming was rapidly spending his true essence. Even with the support of the Eight Inner Hidden

Gates, he had already consumed 50-60% of his true essence!

65 breaths of time!

66 breaths of time!

The critical 70 breaths of time mark became increasingly close. Outside of the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming's true body flushed red with blood. His entire body was slick with sweat and his hand that touched the God Transforming Mirror was trembling.

On the side, Huo Wenlong, Huo Yu, Huo Ping, and the others all looked fearful and alarmed. Especially Huo Wenlong; he was well aware of just how difficult the God Transforming Mirror's second world was.

Every 10 breaths of time, the meteors would grow in size, their weight growing that much more. Moreover, the second world would also cause the meteors to fall even faster by making the gravitational force greater. Huo Wenlong found it hard to imagine how difficult it was to last in that world for 66 breaths of time!

In the God Transforming Mirror, several more breaths of time passed.

70 breaths of time!

Because Lin Ming's true essence was lacking, he was finally

unable to break past the shockwave of flames. The turbulent energy flooded over him, giving him his first injury!

“This boy... he’s been injured...” General Smoke actually felt a sense of relief. If this had continued then he would have no idea just how long Lin Ming would have been able to persist. If Lin Ming was a heroic young elite from a Holy Land in the Realm of the Gods, then that was reasonable. But Lin Ming was only a martial artist from the lower realms... that was truly incredible.

“It should end soon. Once he’s injured, defeat will come swiftly. He should be able to last for another four to five breaths of time. That should be around 75 breaths of time as a final result. That’s also acceptable...” General Smoke thought. Generally, once a martial artist was injured they would consume even more true essence. Coupled with the increasing number and weight of the stars, under this barrage he would be defeated in several more breaths of time.

Within the God Transforming Mirror, Lin Ming fiercely bit down on his tongue, forcefully revolving the Heretical God Force and suppressing the rampaging fire energy in his meridians. As he spat out a mouthful of blood he stabbed his spear out once again!

At 72 breaths of time, Lin Ming was injured yet again. This injury was even more serious. His chest was struck by the violent energy flows, causing blood to gush out. However, Lin Ming had completed 100% of Tempering Marrow and had used the profound gold divine fruit to temper his body. His body was as formidable as a treasure. Even though his chest muscles were scorched black and ruined, he still forcefully lived through this attack with none of his

internal organs injured.

74 breaths of time. The raging energy flows were too strong. Lin Ming's ribs were cracked by the shockwaves and his organs were slightly injured.

76 breaths of time...

77 breaths of time...

At 78 breaths of time, Lin Ming had nearly used up all of his true essence. But at this time, a two and a half mile meteor began forming in the chain of stars. Lin Ming no longer had the strength to reverse the chain of stars. He could only look on helplessly as this meteor came crashing down, its speed accelerating at a ridiculous rate due to the force of the Laws, bringing a flaming tail behind it!

79 breaths, 80 breaths, the meteor blazed and an incandescent light lit up the entire sky.

81 breaths of time.

A horrifying explosion tore apart the earth. Lin Ming no longer had even the least bit of ability to resist. His body was shredded to pieces in the shockwaves.

The smelting trial test had ended here!

When Lin Ming drew back from the God Transforming Mirror with a pale face, General Smoke still hadn't composed himself.

81 breaths of time!

This was too incredible!

Lin Ming had lasted several more breaths of time than General Smoke had expected. From 70 to 80 breaths of time, the difficulty increased by yet another level!

“This boy, not only has he made excellent progress in his battle spirit and understanding of Laws, but his endurance and defensive ability are freakishly abnormal! If an ordinary martial artist was injured at 70 breaths of time, they would at most be able to last until 75 to 76 breaths of time. Yet this boy actually desperately dragged himself to 80 breaths of time. What a freak!”

As General Smoke thought that Lin Ming was about to be defeated after being injured, Lin Ming had actually grit his teeth and stumbled forwards, defying all expectations and lasting for another 11 breaths of time.

General Smoke had no idea just what expression he should be making.

Chapter 741 – Trading for the Phoenix Blood

[One mace = 3 to 4 grams]

When Guru Blueflame saw that Lin Ming managed to reach 81 breaths of time, his entire face lit up with happiness. Lin Ming was a young elite that came from his Timeworn Phoenix City and could also be considered a disciple of his. In the future, if Lin Ming really became an Elder of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, then that would be the most glorious moment of his life.

Of course, the probability was extremely low, even if Lin Ming was talented enough to be called a 500 year talent of the three great Phoenix Cities of the lower realms.

An Elder level character usually only appeared in the Ancient Phoenix Clan once in a millennium. Moreover, there was an over 90% chance that they would originate from the Realm of the Gods.

If Lin Ming wanted to become an Elder, he would need to have an astonishing destiny and an immeasurable number of lucky chances.

Only three Elder level characters had originated from the three great Phoenix Cities of the lower realms in the last two to three hundred thousand years. Moreover, they were outer court Elders; none of them had been inner court Elders.

Currently, the last outer court Elder was born 50,000 years ago. This was an extremely distant matter to Guru Blueflame since he was only just over 10,000 years old.

“When this boy ascends into the Realm of the Gods in the future, I definitely must have him join my army.” General Smoke thought out loud, subconsciously gripping his palm.

“Haha, then that depends whether or not you can snatch him away. Even if Nuyan Ming can’t become an Elder there’s still a high chance of him becoming a Hall Master. Perhaps he might even be chosen by Vermillion Bird Hall.

With Lin Ming’s talent, it would be extremely easy for him to find a good position in the Ancient Phoenix Clan in the future, whether that was in the army or the ruling system.

“Just wait and see. He will definitely join under my command. This is a young fellow who appreciates battle the most! Since I’ve lost this time, tonight I’ll open up my fog flower wine and we’ll drink until we drop!”

“Haha, you’re making me drool here!” When Guru Blueflame heard that there was wine to drink even his eyes began to smile.

But at this time, Fairy Feng suddenly said in a soft voice, “General Smoke, do you remember about the Ancient Phoenix blood that we discussed previously?”

“Of course I remember! Nuyan Ming can last up to 81 breaths of time! On just this point alone, I no longer need him to complete the 100 day assessment; I can consider him as passed. I will apply for the Ancient Phoenix blood for him. I will also ask for Nuyan

Ming's opinion. Perhaps he might want other types of resources besides the Ancient Phoenix blood.

In the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan, the outstanding youths there could request for resources depending on their results in the smelting trial. Ancient Phoenix blood, pills, Fire Elementals, rare cultivation methods, all sorts of precious things could be obtained.

Lin Ming was indeed talented, but the Ancient Phoenix Clan in the Realm of the Gods was far too large. There were new generations of outstanding young elites every 10 years, thus there were never enough resources to pass around. Not to mention that besides these young elites there were also powerhouses that were hundreds or even thousands of years that also needed resources.

Since resources were so precious and in limited quantities, there naturally had to be a fair system to distribute them.

The Ancient Phoenix Clan had different valuations for different resources. With Lin Ming's results, he could exchange for more of a less valuable type or less of a more valuable type. This was the fairest system.

"Nuyan Ming." General Smoke withdrew his consciousness from the God Transforming Mirror and looked at the exhausted Lin Ming. He grinned and said, "With your ability to persist in the second world for 81 breaths of time, you can be considered to have already passed my 100 day assessment. Now, I will give you 9 points as a total score. With this result, you can exchange for various cultivation resources of the Ancient Phoenix Clan. This

includes Ancient Phoenix blood, Fire Elementals, pills, rare cultivation methods, jade slips with Concept enlightenments, and so forth. What would you like to exchange for?”

As General Smoke spoke, all of the other martial artists turned green with envy. Any one of these resources were priceless treasures!

Huo Wenlong sighed. He thought that he could diligently train and slowly catch up to Lin Ming, but now it seemed that the disparity between them was only growing more with every passing day!

General Smoke said that the resources were all approved by the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan. As someone who came from the Realm of the Gods himself, not being able to obtain the treasures of his own clan but instead having them taken by Lin Ming left a bitter taste in his mouth.

“I want... the blood of the Ancient Phoenix!”

Lin Ming replied without hesitation. He had plenty of cultivation methods, pills could be found elsewhere, and while a Fire Elemental was precious, he wouldn't exchange it using such a valuable opportunity. He only desired the blood of the Ancient Phoenix. By transplanting it into his body, he could permanently increase his fusion compatibility with the Concept of Fire. This naturally took priority over all else.

Lin Ming's reply was well within General Smoke's expectations.

General Smoke faintly smiled and said, “Don’t be so hasty to choose. Because most young elites desire to exchange for the Ancient Phoenix blood, this caused its price to be the highest. As a result, if you completely exchange your points for the Ancient Phoenix blood, at most you’ll have around over a mace worth. While you can choose the Ancient Phoenix blood, there are also other resources available. For instance, Concept jade slips. If you meditate on these, it will greatly improve your understandings towards the Fire Laws. What do you think?”

As General Smoke spoke, Lin Ming hesitated. A [mace](#) was probably 60-70 drops. 10 maces was 1 tael. 16 taels was one jin. A martial artist probably had around 10 jins of blood in their bodies. This was equivalent to Lin Ming exchanging for 1/1000 of the blood in his body.

As for that single drop of Ancient Phoenix blood from the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, that was simply nothing to speak of.

If he wanted to trade for the so-called perfect Ancient Phoenix bloodline, that was still too far away. Perhaps it was as General Smoke said; exchanging part of his points for the Concept of Fire jade slips would also be good.

While Lin Ming was thinking, Fairy Feng’s true essence sound transmission sounded out in his ears.

“Nuyan Ming, completely exchange all of your points for the Blood of the Ancient Phoenix. As for the Concept jade slips, the higher quality ones are too expensive and the lower quality ones aren’t necessarily any better than the ones I lent you. They will

simply be useless to you.”

“Mm?”

Lin Ming glanced at Fairy Feng. Fairy Feng nodded in return and also said, “The phoenix bloodline concentration in your body is too low. Do not miss this chance to enhance your bloodline richness! As for the other clansmen, their bloodline concentration is much higher, thus exchanging for other suitable things may be better choices for them.

“Thank you Senior for your guidance.”

Lin Ming held an extremely high level of trust towards Fairy Feng. He immediately said to General Smoke, “I want to exchange everything for the blood of the Ancient Phoenix.”

“Okay!” General Smoke no longer delayed. He directly took out a quarter foot square crystal block from his spatial ring. In the very center of this crystal block was a sealed mass of red liquid. This red liquid was only the size of a fingertip, it seemed like a bright red ruby that was trapped inside. Obviously, this was the blood of the Ancient Phoenix.

General Smoke said, “According to normal reasoning, I would need to apply to headquarters to distribute this blood of the Ancient Phoenix. However, with your situation, it should be more than guaranteed that your application is successful. Thus, I won’t bother with all the red-tape and will directly give you this blood of the Ancient Phoenix instead. I hope that you can thoroughly

comprehend the source Fire Laws in the future and become one of the Elders of my Ancient Phoenix Clan!”

As General Smoke said this, he tossed the blood of the Ancient Phoenix into Lin Ming’s hands. “This is around a mace of blood. I can also help you apply for 10 more drops. I’ll give it to you in a few more days.”

“Thank you, General Smoke.” Lin Ming held the clear crystal block in his hands. As he looked at the shining Ancient Phoenix blood within, his eyes lit up with eager excitement.

Chapter 742 – Late Revolving Core

The Ancient Phoenix bloodline was the fundamental basis for the existence of the Realm of the Gods Ancient Phoenix Clan. It was self-evident just how important it was to the Ancient Phoenix Clan. These past days, Lin Ming had gained a general understanding of the Ancient Phoenix Clan.

Leaving aside the three thousand boundless worlds within the lower realms and the branches of the Ancient Phoenix Clan that existed there, just within the Ancient Phoenix Clan within the Realm of the Gods, the clansmen there could be tallied in the hundreds of billions!

In addition to those from the lower realms, the number was incalculable.

Martial artists in the Realm of the Gods lived extremely long lives, often for tens of thousands of years. During this time period, they could have numerous children. If this continued, the number of individuals would grow at an exponential rate, and it was easy for the population to surpass hundreds of billions. In the Realm of the Gods, the Ancient Phoenix Clan had multiplied for countless generations already.

With so many extraordinary youths born, the difficulty of standing out could be imagined.

While Lin Min sat on a stone bed in his own training dimension, he asked Demonshine, “How is the situation in the South Sea?”

When Lin Ming had left, he had also brought along a wisp of Demonshine's soul; this was so that he could always be aware of what was happening in the South Sea. Timeworn Phoenix City and the Sky Spill Continent were in difference spaces after all. To use a sound transmission was simply impossible. He could only depend on Demonshine to use his own soul to transmit messages.

Demonshine said, "The Giant Leviathan should be able to stay in the deep sea trench for half a year, and only 100 days has passed so we're still okay. Xuan Wuji does launch an exploratory attack every now and then. I'm guessing that he should be growing nervous by now."

"I see..." Lin Ming's expression became a bit gloomy. If Xuan Wuji was attacking, then the Giant Leviathan might only be able to hold out for just five months instead of six. Time was running out.

"Then... I will meditate on the Concepts and Laws a bit more and then absorb the blood of the Ancient Phoenix." As Lin Ming spoke he took out the crystal block with the Ancient Phoenix Blood and placed it in the palm of his hands.

He could already be considered as having finished the first stage of the king level smelting trial; he could return whenever he wished. But, perceiving the Laws was naturally much faster in Timeworn Phoenix City. More importantly, Lin Ming had no clear idea how his strength was when compared with Xuan Wuji. If he increased his strength to the maximum limit he could before returning, then he would have the greatest assurance when facing Xuan Wuji.

As the blood of the Ancient Phoenix lay in his palms, Lin Ming could feel an ancient and mystical energy emitting from the clear crystal block.

The crystal was only an inch thick. Sealed within, the blood of the Ancient Phoenix seemed thick and heavy, in the shape of a perfect sphere.

Lin Ming struck the crystal block. The crystal suddenly shook and countless cracks spread throughout it like a spider web.

With a turn of his hand, all of that Ancient Phoenix blood flew into Lin Ming's palm.

The Ancient Phoenix blood was viscous like mercury as it formed a flat spherical shape in Lin Ming's hand.

As Lin Ming looked at this mass of Ancient phoenix Blood, he suddenly recalled the description in the 'Chaotic Virtues Combat Meridians' where it described a boundary where one's marrow was like golden soup and blood like heavy mercury. The so-called blood like mercury was where the blood wouldn't scatter if it fell, easily gathering just like this blood of the Ancient Phoenix.

Without a doubt, a God Beast from the Realm of the Gods was a high level existence that dual cultivated body and essence. They had powerful bodies and a vast, immeasurable amount of energy was contained within them. Not just that, but they were naturally more suited towards the Laws of the universe than humans, or

rather that they were part of the Laws to begin with.

So, how could a God Beast not be formidable?

Lin Ming formed a small blade of true essence on his finger tip and then calmly cut a slit in the skin between his eyebrows. As blood flowed out, he took the Ancient Phoenix blood and pressed in between his eyebrows.

A deep burning feel filled him as if there was a fire blazing between his eyebrows and acid was running through his flesh. However, to Lin Ming who had already become accustomed to all sorts of pain, this was nothing at all.

With his powerful regenerative abilities, the wound between Lin Ming's forehead quickly healed over, sealing the Ancient Phoenix blood into Lin Ming's body.

The Ancient Phoenix blood had an extremely strong vitality. As soon as it entered Lin Ming, it began to crazily swallow Lin Ming's bloodline. If one wasn't strong enough, then not only would they not be able to absorb the Ancient Phoenix blood, but the blood would instead cause a backlash, killing the martial artist. That martial artist's blood would then become the nourishment of the Ancient Phoenix blood instead.

Lin Ming silently revolved his true essence, circulating the energy in his meridians according to the 'Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle'. An invisible strength enveloped the Ancient Phoenix Blood, pushing it deep into his blood vessels.

At this time, where Lin Ming's heart was, the Magic Cube was silent throughout. It appeared to have no intention of fighting Lin Ming for this Ancient Phoenix blood. Lin Ming let out a sigh of relief. If the Magic Cube really wanted to snatch away the Ancient Phoenix blood, there simply wouldn't be any left for Lin Ming.

Lin Ming closed his eyes and entered the ethereal martial intent state. Intangible fluctuations of will emanated outwards from the battle spirit in his spiritual sea. All of the fire origin energy in the surrounding space continuously converged into Lin Ming's meridians, circulating according to the 'Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle'.

But at this time, within Lin Ming's dantian, the Black Hole Revolving Core there began to slowly spin, forming a vortex of energy, constantly swallowing the violent energy from the Ancient Phoenix blood.

With Lin Ming's current level of strength, it wasn't too dangerous to absorb the blood of the Ancient Phoenix. It would only be a matter of time.

One day, two days, three days...

After seven days passed, the Ancient Phoenix mark between Lin Ming's eyebrows grew increasingly bright, as if a red star was blazing there. As for Lin Ming himself, he seemed to have entered into a peculiar trance-like state.

Normally, absorbing the Ancient Phoenix blood wouldn't take so long. Lin Ming sat in meditation for seven days because he wanted to perceive the Laws contained within the Ancient Phoenix blood as he absorbed it.

Last time, Lin Ming had been able to last within the second world of the God Transforming Mirror for 81 breaths of time. Now, he had many new understandings towards the Concept of Annihilation. At this time, taking advantage of the time when he was absorbing the Ancient Phoenix blood, he decided to carefully validate his new comprehensions of the Laws one at a time.

Unknowingly, the flame totem engraved on the surface of the Heretical God Seed became increasingly perfect and profound. As for Lin Ming, his understandings towards the Concept of Fire rapidly progressed.

On the ninth day, Lin Ming could feel the Revolving Core within his dantian nearing the edge of transformation, on the border of breaking through to the late Revolving Core realm!

Lin Ming was overjoyed. After absorbing this blood of the Ancient Phoenix and in addition to his new understandings of the Laws, he was finally about to break through from the peak of the middle Revolving Core realm to the late Revolving Core realm!

Before entering the Divine Phoenix Mystic realm, Lin Ming's cultivation had been at the middle Revolving Core stage. Now, after a mere 100 some days of time, he was about to break through to the late Revolving Core realm.

Closing his eyes, Lin Ming gathered all the energy from his meridians to his dantian, focusing on making this breakthrough.

The true essence vortex on the Black Hole Revolving Core became increasingly large, sucking in true essence increasingly fast. The entire surface of the crystal core was now a deep blood red.

2 hours...

4 hours...

Lin Ming had stirred up a fierce origin energy storm in his dimension.

This sort of dimension had an extremely rich heaven and earth origin energy. But, the space of the dimension was limited. It was unable to withstand the crazy absorption from Lin Ming, and soon half the energy was cleanly sucked away by him.

However, the architect of the dimension had already considered many similar situations. After the concentration of true essence dropped precipitously, the array formation that formed the dimension would draw in origin energy from Timeworn Phoenix City, restoring the origin energy within.

Thus, from his dimension, Lin Ming began to absorb all the nearby energy.

In the Nine Layer Tower at the center of Timeworn Phoenix City, Fairy Feng had just obtained this news. These past days, she had sent out someone to take notice of Lin Ming's situation and report it back to her.

“Nuyan Ming has started to swallow the surrounding energy from his dimension. It seems that the little boy made a breakthrough.” Fairy Feng stood up and walked towards a balcony, looking out towards Lin Ming's dimension.

“Haha, he should have made a breakthrough even earlier! He has already perceived so much from the jade slips and totem stones, and in addition to the Ancient Phoenix blood he absorbed, his breakthrough speed is already too slow!” Guru Blueflame laughed out from not too far away.

As Guru Blueflame said, the blood of the Ancient Phoenix was simply a priceless treasure for a fire-attribute martial artist. Its value greatly surpassed the Nirvana Dragon Root to the point that it could be considered to be on another level altogether.

Lin Ming was only at the Revolving Core realm. For him to absorb so much Ancient Phoenix blood, the advantages could be imagined.

Fairy Feng said, “This is because Nuyan Ming's foundation is solid. Thus, the amount of total true essence he needs to break through is much higher. Sometimes, having slower breakthroughs isn't a disadvantage.”

“Mm. I’m looking forwards to how he’ll be when he breaks through to the Divine Sea realm. I wonder to what degree his strength will reach.”

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In his dimension, Lin Ming had already been stranded at the critical breakthrough point for 10 hours. The Revolving Core crystal nucleus in his dantian had grown to the size of a fist and it rapidly spun like a top. A red layer of mist covered the surface of the Revolving Core.

Then, at this moment, the Revolving Core began to collapse from the inside out!

The entire Revolving Core rapidly reduced in size, emitting blazing rays of fiery light. Heaven and earth energy crazily gathered together, constantly condensing. In a single go, Lin Ming had broken through to the late Revolving Core realm!

He had finally succeeded!

Lin Ming’s eyes slammed open. He gasped for breath in deep heaving gulps, his entire body dripping with sweat.

The late Revolving Core realm was the last boundary before Life Destruction. As for extreme Revolving Core, that was just another term for Life Destruction.

In essence, the Life Destruction realm was part of the Revolving Core realm. This was because, in both realms, the Revolving Core in the dantian was still the focus of the martial artist's energy.

But even so, from late Revolving Core to Life Destruction, the disparity in strength was equal to an entire great boundary.

Stepping into the Revolving Core realm meant that one could be considered a master of the South Horizon Region. However, considering the entirety of the Sky Spill Continent, this strength was simply irrelevant.

But by stepping into Life Destruction one would finally enter the ranks of masters within the Sky Spill Continent.

Life Destruction masters were valued even in Holy lands. If one could reach the first stage of Life Destruction then they could at least be an outer court Elder of a Holy Land.

Lin Ming had now reached the late Revolving Core realm; he was only a single step from entering Life Destruction. However, Lin Ming was only 21 years old!

“My cultivation has reached the late Revolving Core realm. In addition to my new comprehensions of Fire Laws, I wonder to what degree I can contend with Xuan Wuji when I return?”

Before Lin Ming entered the king level smelting trial he was still

weaker than a third stage Life Destruction master. As for Xuan Wuji, he was at the fourth stage of Life Destruction. Moreover, he had dominated the entire South Sea for so many years so it was likely he had some hidden cards in his hands. This upcoming fight with Xuan Wuji was still filled with unknowns.

However, Lin Ming was confident that even if the situation was worse than what he expected, he could at least protect the Giant Leviathan and guide it to safety.

“Demonshine, I will still have five days I can meditate on the totem stones. Once I’ve used that up, we will immediately return to the Sky Spill Continent!”

After Lin Ming lasted in the second world for 81 breaths of time, he had obtained another 5 days to perceive the totem stones as a reward. If he didn’t use them all up then that would be a waste.

Chapter 743 – Return to the Sky Spill Continent

Lin Ming had recently closed up to enlighten himself on the Annihilation Laws of the Concept of Fire. In addition, after having broken through to the late Revolving Core realm and absorbing the blood of the Ancient Phoenix, there were a great number of doubts that had accumulated in his mind. With these final five days of meditating on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone, Lin Ming wanted to slowly resolve these doubts, verifying the truths and comprehensions within the flame engravings on the Ancient Phoenix Totem Stone. However, the end result was that not only was he unable to solve his questions, but during the process of meditation he also gained newer and more complex doubts.

Lin Ming could feel that as his comprehension of the Concept of Flame deepened, his doubts grew more and more.

This is a normal phenomenon. If Lin Ming one day managed to clear away all of his doubts then that would be equal to understanding the source of Fire Laws.

And, it was even possible that someone who completely understood the source of Fire Laws would still have some doubts.

Lin Ming didn't bother asking Fairy Feng about the questions he had. After all, she had said that he would have the most profound understanding if he realized these things himself, not to mention that everyone comprehended the Laws differently. Everyone had their own system by which they comprehended Laws. Trying to solve his own problems with others people's answers was not the

best way to go about things.

The more solid his foundation was, the more perfect the system of Laws that he understood would become.

At this moment, Lin Ming had stayed at the Timeworn Phoenix City for 120 days.

It was almost time to leave. But before leaving, Lin Ming applied to enter the God Transforming Mirror one final time.

The second world of the God Transforming Mirror was known to be unbreakable by martial artists weaker than a Divine Sea martial artist from the lower realms. This was mainly because martial artists weaker than the Divine Sea simply didn't have the raw strength required to cause a large-scale reversal of the chain of stars. Even if they were fully aware of the Laws, it was still useless.

With Lin Ming's strength, he could only change a small portion of the revolution amongst the chain of stars. He was still a far from being able to break past the second world.

It was impossible for Lin Ming to break past the second world. The reason he came to the God Transforming Mirror again was mainly to confirm some new ideas he had.

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Timeworn Phoenix City, Nine Layer Tower –

General Smoke still hadn't left. Thousands of years ago, when the Ancient Phoenix Clan fought with an alien race in a massive war, General Smoke and Guru Blueflame had both served together in the army. There, they had forged a lifelong friendship on the precipice of death. It was only afterwards that Guru Blueflame was severely wounded, thus he came to Timeworn Phoenix City to recover. Like this, thousands of years had passed.

General Smoke and Guru Blueflame were merrily drinking together. As for Fairy Feng, she was leisurely drinking some tea. At this moment, a fire lit in front of the three.

“That boy Nuyan Ming, he broke through 90 breaths of time in the God Transforming Mirror of the second world!” After Guru Blueflame heard the sound transmission, his eyes lit up. From 81 breaths to 90 breaths of time, that was another increase in difficulty!

“His progress is truly marvelous!” General Smoke praised as he swished around his wine glass.

“Hehe, I actually think his progress is quite slow this time. He absorbed the blood of the Ancient Phoenix and also broke through to the late Revolving Core realm. I assume that these days he also gained new insights into the Fire Laws. To only increase his record by nine breaths of time, that's just a little too few...” Guru Blueflame licked his lips after he took a gulp of wine, shaking his head. His expression seemed as if he wished for Lin Ming to break past the second world and directly enter the third world, it was if would only be happy if he could scare this old fellow from the

Realm of the Gods to death.

“It’s not too surprising...” Fairy Feng faintly said as she fiddled with her teacup. “Glory from his results is simply unimportant to Nuyan Ming. This time, he shouldn’t have been trying to breakthrough with his complete strength, but rather confirming some ideas in the God Transforming Mirror’s second world. If he used his complete range of skills to their full effect, then he should at least be able to break through 100 breaths of time.”

After Fairy Feng spoke, Guru Blueflame suddenly remembered this. During the second time that Lin Ming went to the second world, he had attempted every single one of his moves at different times, even testing out the skill that involved the Concept of Thunder. Doing such was an extremely taxing process.

To test out his new comprehensions and even last for 90 breaths of time, that was enough to be called abnormal!

“The little fellow is about to leave Timeworn Phoenix City. I hope that when he returns to his Sky Spill Continent, he will be able to allow his destiny to reach its peak. We’ve already done all we can do; everything else will depend on himself.”

Nearly every genius had their own destiny and a number of lucky chances in their lives. Guru Blueflame thought that Lin Ming’s destiny still belonged in the Sky Spill Continent. If he returned, it was possible for him to inherit that destiny as well as finish his cycle of karma there. After he reached the Divine Sea in the future, he would definitely be able to ascend into the Realm of the Gods without any lingering emotions dragging him back.

“Mm, since we’ve noticed his grown there, perhaps one day there will be a chance where his strength will surpass even us...” As Fairy Feng spoke, she faintly smiled. This was already an extremely high evaluation from her. Fairy Feng, General Smoke, and General Blueflame were all characters in the Ancient Phoenix Clan that were only inferior to Elders.

Those that surpassed them in rank were all Elders or above.

Within the Ancient Phoenix Clan in the Realm of the Gods, there were 72 Elders. These Elders were called Palace Masters because in the Realm of the Gods, the Ancient Phoenix Clan had 72 Palaces. Many of these palaces were located in secretive mystic realms, their internal structure incomparably mystical, containing all sorts of profound and enigmatic principles. There were also some palaces located in nearly inaccessible lands in the Realm of the Gods, lands where only true powerhouses could go.

These 72 Palace Masters were all characters that had lived for tens of thousands of years or even hundreds of thousands of years. There were even some Palace Masters that had lived longer than the current Phoenix Clan Patriarch.

To become a Palace Master of the 72 Palaces?

That was unimaginably difficult!

Moreover, a rare genius often couldn’t even become a Palace Master. This was because there were simply too many talents in

the universe. New extraordinary young elites appeared every few years, and there was even more geniuses concentrated in the Realm of the Gods. Even if they were dazzling and gloriously in the smelting trial, that was still useless. After all, it was unknown just what the future would hold. Just because their current destiny was astonishing didn't mean that their future destiny would be just as spectacular. It was possible that the talents of today could exhaust all of their future potentials.

For instance, there were Palace Masters that hadn't obtained first place during the time they participated in the king level smelting trial. But, they were able to slowly overtake those that had been more talented than them, finally becoming a Palace Master. As for the young talents that had once been stronger, they had simply faded from view or even perished.

As to how Lin Ming's future would be, no one could even estimate.

As the three were drinking and musing to themselves, Lin Ming had already packed up all his belongings and arrived at the transmission array of Timeworn Phoenix City. These last 120 days had been far too valuable to Lin Ming. He had seen a new world, greatly expanding his horizons.

As Lin Ming left, he also brought along the Concept jade slips that Fairy Feng had left for him. These jade slips were originally only supposed to be lent to Lin Ming for a month or two, but now they were lent to Lin Ming until he could breakthrough to the Divine Sea.

“Let’s go, were heading home!”

Lin Ming gripped his fists, decisively stepping onto the transmission array.

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In the endless South Sea, the great waves were rough and choppy.

No one in the Sky Spill Continent knew just how large the South Sea was nor where it ended. Legends said that there was once a mighty Supreme Elder that had flown towards the south of the South Sea for several years but still didn’t couldn’t find where it ended. Instead, he met more and more troubles and encountered increasingly formidable deep sea vicious beasts that even he dreaded dealing with. This had forced him to retrace his steps.

At this time, in this incomparably vast sea, at a range of hundreds of feet deep, there were four martial artists gathered together. The leader of this group was the number one character of the South Sea Demon Region – Xuan Wuji.

In front of Xuan Wuji, there was a strange octopus-like creature. It had several dozen long limbs but also two human-like arms. For the races of the deep sea, this wasn’t too strange of an appearance at all.

Beside the weird octopus’ side was the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan’s

Patriarch. Although he had suffered greatly because of Lin Ming and many of his fellow clansmen had been killed, he still couldn't resist the temptation and returned. He wasn't willing to give up on the Giant Leviathan's marrow.

As for the Black Flood Dragon Clan, they didn't appear again. The Patriarch of the Black Flood Dragon Clan was only at the second stage of Life Destruction. His strength was far too low to begin with. There was never any chance of Xuan Wuji dividing any resources with him and instead, he faced the threat of having his entire clan being exterminated. If he came again and they didn't manage to kill Lin Ming, then that was a looming catastrophe over his hands. With this sort of thankless matter, he naturally withdrew early.

There was also another deep sea race present, represented by a feminine looking man. He was tall with narrow eyes, pale skin, and a cruel, evil smile that constantly hung on his face.

This person also came from the demonic path. His name was Bai Guanyun and his nickname was the Immortal Demon.

Bai Guanyun followed the path of obscenity and could be considered a counterpart of Xuan Wuji. His ancestors had once been part of the Silent Demon Emperor City. When the Silent Demon Emperor City was annihilated, Bai Guanyun's clan left and headed towards the southwest mainland. There, they established their own sect that was also a demonic path sect.

Originally, Bai Guanyun's sect couldn't compare to the South Sea Demon Region. But now, with the South Sea Demon Region being

razed and looted several times by Lin Ming, they were alive in name only. With this, Bai Guanyun's sect naturally surpassed the South Sea Demon Region.

“Elder Xuan, don't you think this is a bit too much? You've actually been forced into this state by a little hairless Revolving Core boy who's only 20 some years old. And somehow even 80 to 90% of your sect was destroyed?”

Bai Guanyun's words brimmed with a mocking tone. Xuan Wuji obviously heard it, but after reaching his boundary, he had devoted his entire being to reaching the Divine Sea and becoming a Peerless Emperor. As for the taunting ridicules of others, he naturally paid no heed to them.

The reason that he had asked Bai Guanyun to come was to lay down a Mystic Thousand Sea Sealing Array. In order to do so, he needed at least four third stage Life Destruction or higher powerhouses.

The strange octopus was one, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Patriarch was another, and along with Xuan Wuji that was three in total. He was still missing one, thus he went to look for Bai Guanyun.

First, he could be considered old acquaintances with Bai Guanyun. Also, Bai Guanyun's cultivation was only at the third stage of Life Destruction; it would be relatively easy for Xuan Wuji to control him.

Otherwise, if he were to ask a top master to come and kill Lin

Ming and find out whatever secrets were on his body, then those secrets might be stolen away instead. At that time, he would have sacrificed so much just to have all his effort become a gift for someone else.

“Bai Guanyun, you’ve lived over 1000 years so you should fully understand the truth that even a lion must use its full force to capture a rabbit. Moreover, Lin Ming is a formidable enemy. If you underestimate him then you will be the one to suffer a loss!”

“Haha, well anyways, sine you’ve already paid me for my services then I will gladly work for you, you can ask me to do whatever you wish!” Bai Guanyun was full of smiles. He didn’t really care much about Xuan Wuji’s words. In fact, seeing the South Sea Demon Region being reduced to such a state, he was filled with a gloating happiness.

“Bai Guanyun, you go to the south. Brother Sea Ape, you go to the north. I will go to the east. As for the rest, I’ll have to rely on Brother Thousand Arm.

The Brother Thousand Arm that Xuan Wuji mentioned was the strange octopus man. The Mystic Thousand Sea Sealing Array would have to rely mainly on the assistance of this strange octopus to set down. Once the Mystic Thousand Sea Sealing Array was laid down, then it would form an inescapable net. The dreamland within it would be infinite and endless, capable of directly sealing away the Giant Leviathan’s perception.

Chapter 744 – The Bloodstained Deep Sea

A great mystic fairyland enchantment was originally difficult to break. Moreover, the Giant Leviathan's intelligence was low to begin with; it simply wasn't able to differentiate between fantasy and reality.

If the array had a boundary, then the Giant Leviathan could directly break through it. But, this Mystic Thousand Sea Sealing Array had no boundaries. If the Giant Leviathan attacked, its strike would simply fade outwards, causing no damage to the array itself.

On a side of the deep sea trench, the strange octopus was laying down the array formation with Bai Guanyun.

The deep sea trench was very long. The entire array formation had to cover a radius of 10 miles. While the octopus creature crawled onto the walls of the ocean trench its body wriggled as it drew deep sea origin energy through its arms and into its body.

“Brother Fish, that Lin Ming boy has many secrets on his body, right?” Bai Guanyun asked in a seemingly casual manner. In his opinion, there was no way that Xuan Wuji would be willing to pay any price to just kill this Lin Ming for revenge.

The strange octopus looked at Bai Guanyun, its entire body bulging and pulsating like the waves of the sea. “I do not know...”

Its voice was forced and hard to understand as if it had to use some arcane ability to stiffly change its normal language into

something understandable.

Bai Guanyun pondered for a moment. He didn't know what sort of secrets Lin Ming had on him, but he very much wanted a portion of the spoils. However, he simply didn't have the ability to contend against Xuan Wuji. His only chance was if he found several more allies or if he found some opportune turning point.

“I heard this Lin Ming is less than 25 years old... to be at the middle Revolving Core at such a young age, there definitely must be some sort of extraordinary secret on his body.”

Bai Guanyun didn't play around with the strange octopus. He directly told him his thoughts, hoping to arouse its interest. “If we can capture Lin Ming ahead of time and use a soul searching technique on him, then perhaps we might be able to glean something. Of course, the premise of this all relies on whether or not Brother Fish can fix the array formation so that we can hide this from Xuan Wuji. As for the matter of capturing Lin Ming, you can leave that to me. I can guarantee you that there won't be any problems.”

Bai Guanyun's tone was very casual. He was a man of ambition. Although he knew that there was a risk of enraging Xuan Wuji, he still couldn't resist the desires of his heart. As for dealing with Lin Ming, this didn't seem like a problem to him to begin with.

To change the array formation to hide all this from Xuan Wuji and then capturing Lin Ming?

The octopuses mind stirred. It's hand movements slowed a bit, and its body oscillated. It was unknown just what this strange creature was thinking about.

Without a doubt, Lin Ming was definitely a delicious delicacy. But, to move against Lin Ming was the same as stealing food from the jaws of a tiger. They would have to risk arousing Xuan Wuji's wrath.

There was still several days until this array formation would be finished. If it could use this time to plan its moves...

While the strange octopus was thinking, it suddenly became aware of a very unusual feeling. As a deep sea life form, it was extremely sensitive to any changes in the water. At this moment, it could feel a faint murderous intent rushing through the sea.

“Mm? Dodge!”

The strange octopus frantically screamed out. Its body suddenly accelerated to the side. Bai Guanyun was shocked, immediately following it. As for the spot they had just been floating at, the current of water there had twisted into the point of a blade, crazily spinning and slicing its way through!

“What is this!?”

The strange octopus was shocked. That strange spinning water blade didn't contain any energy, but with just the driving force of

will itself, it seemed as if it could cut everything to pieces!

“Who is it!?” The strange octopus and Bai Guanyun spun around, both of them looking in the same direction. There, they could see a blue-clothed youth that wielded a red long spear. In the deep darkness of the sea, he was like a god of death that slowly approached them. His entire body seemed to meld into the surrounding seawater, making that red spear in his hands seem particularly dazzling.

Since it was hundreds of thousands of feet deep under the sea, there was no sunlight. One could only count on their own perception to sense things. But, that red spear seemed as if it was emitting its own crimson light like a flame burning in the darkness.

“You are...” Bai Guanyun’s pupils contracted. This youth’s face wasn’t unfamiliar to him. Before coming here, he had already investigated the situation in the South Horizon Region. He knew that this boy was Lin Ming!

“You are Lin Ming? Haha, truly I can search far and wide, only to find you so easily here! Since you’ve come visit me, then you might as well stay behind!”

Bai Guanyun’s words seemed rampant to the extreme but he remained highly alert in his heart. He revolved the energy in his body to the limit. According to his intelligence, Lin Ming’s strength was inferior to that of a third stage Life Destruction master, so why would he take the initiative to attack them? There were the two of them and even Xuan Wuji was nearby. Did he have

a death wish?

At this time, Lin Ming gave off an aura similar to a vicious deep sea beast from the depths of the divine sea. It was like he was completely enveloped in killing intent, making anyone who looked at him feel repressed, unable to revolt.

Bai Guanyun immediately extracted a peak high-grade earth-step treasure sword from his spatial ring. At this time, he finally noticed that Lin Ming's cultivation was actually at the late Revolving Core realm!

Late Revolving Core realm! That was inconsistent with the information he received...

Bai Guanyun didn't even have time to ponder the meaning of this. In the blink of an eye, Lin Ming's spear had already thrust straight towards him!

Brilliant flames roiled, heating up the seawater until it bubbled. The spear shot thousands of feet forwards in an instant as if it were a blazing meteor in the deep night sky.

"Humph!" Bai Guanyun coldly coughed. Although he was somewhat ambivalent towards Lin Ming, this didn't mean that he feared him. "Merely at the late Revolving Core realm and you suddenly think you're undefeatable in the world? This old man will let you know just how strong a third stage Life Destruction master is! Heaven Shattering Sword!"

Facing this unfathomable Lin Ming, Bai Guanyun didn't dare to hold his hand. With a loud cry, he used 100% of his strength to launch a counterattack. This Heaven Shattering Sword strike was one of his great master moves!

Meanwhile, the strange octopus waved its tentacles, ready to go all out. But in this moment, a bright crimson light suddenly shined out from between Lin Ming's eyebrows. The spear in his hand suddenly soared in speed!

Concept of Fire Annihilation – Chasing Sun!

The might of this spear was like a falling meteor from the God Transforming Mirror's second world. With a loud explosive sound, the sword in Bai Guanyun's hands broke apart!

What!?

When Bai Guanyun saw his own sword shatter like a pane of glass, he was immediately horrified. At this critical moment, he drew back in a panic. However, Lin Ming's long spear homed in towards him. As the Law of Annihilation bloomed in front of Bai Guanyuan, all of the sea water around him began to instantly deconstruct. With a miserable scream, the right half of Bai Guanyun's body was covered in blood!

Not dead yet?

Lin Ming's eyebrows pricked up. With absolute silence, his spear

swept out!

Bai Guanyun was so scared that he felt as if his soul had fled from his body. “Brother Fish, save me!”

At this time of crisis, the strange octopus had also discovered just how terrifying Lin Ming was. Although it didn’t know just what had happened in these past four months, without a doubt, Lin Ming’s strength had risen dramatically. At this time, it was impossible for the strange octopus to contend with him!

As for saving Bai Guanyun, that was simply just a joke. Instead, it hoped that Bai Guanyun could delay Lin Ming for some time so that it could safely escape. Since things had devolved to this point, it no longer had any intention of laying down any sort of sealing array formation. If it couldn’t kill Lin Ming, then the consequences would be dire indeed.

The strange octopus flung out several tentacles, quickly fleeing into the deep sea.

Bai Guanyun cursed in his heart. At the doors of death, he fiercely bit down on his tongue and spat out a mouthful of blood essence, forcefully revolving true essence in his body, causing his body to suddenly shoot up 10 feet. This caused Lin Ming’s spear strike to miss its target and sliced through his leg instead of cutting him in half.

Puff!

His leg bones ruptured and blood oozed into the water. Bai Guanyun screamed as his heart filled with a manic despair.

Lin Ming no longer cared about chasing after Bai Guanyun anymore. He swiveled around and the Asura force field and the Death God force field erupted together. At the same time, he flicked his finger and a mass of purple flames shot out from his hand.

As these flames appeared, the surrounding sea water instantly vaporized. A massive spherical hole was burned through the center of the deep sea.

This fire was the Burning Star Flame.

Pouring his battle spirit into the flames, Lin Ming sprung out his five fingers and the Burning Star Flame shot out like a hail of arrows!

“Ohh!”

The strange octopus that had fled not too far away suddenly screamed. Because it was suddenly covered by these dual force fields, its speed instantly plummeted. It felt as if a sun was suddenly born in the sea, and the high water content of its body quickly withered away in the face of this purple sunlight!

The strange octopus was from a deep sea race and was a water-attribute life form. Fire was its natural nemesis.

Roarr!

The strange octopus let out a strange cry. It spat out a black ball from its body, shooting it straight towards the Burning Star Flame.

Monster's core?

Lin Ming's eyes brightened. If he wasn't wrong, then this was the strange octopus's monster core. The deep sea races were less like humans and more like highly intelligent monsters and beasts. A monster core was something that only a high level monster could cultivate. It was similar to a human's Revolving Core crystal nucleus. Additionally, the most important thing was that it would only use this monster core to fight its enemies when it encountered a highly dangerous situation.

The monster core was extremely fast as it collided with the Burning Star Flame. With a loud bang, a terrifying detonation occurred in the deep sea. The explosive shockwaves surged out in all directions, pushing Bai Guanyun away. As for the strange octopus, because its monster core was damaged, it let out a miserably cough and flew backwards as it emitted a huge jet of inky black fluid.

Lin Ming grasped his red long spear and stepped forwards. After becoming accustomed to the explosive shockwaves from the meteors of the God Transforming Mirror's second world, these shockwaves were now no different from a cool spring breeze to Lin Ming. It simply wasn't even worth mentioning.

He easily broke past the shockwaves. As his feet stepped forwards, he displayed Golden Roc Shattering the Void, instantly appearing in front of the strange octopus!

At that moment, the strange octopus's face distorted with horror. Its monster core hadn't yet returned to its body but Lin Ming had already arrived in front of it. The severity of the situation could be imagined!

“Die.”

Lin Ming expressionlessly thrust out his spear. The spear held the Concept of Burning Heat within it. The crimson spear edge burned red like it just came from the center of a blazing sun. As it shot forwards, a massive amount of water evaporated around it. The octopus screamed out as Lin Ming's spear pierced right into its soft head.

“Ahhhh!”

The strange octopus emitted a completely inhuman scream. It's originally milky white face became covered with rosy colors, as if paints were being mixed on its skin.

Chi chi chi!

The strange octopus's body rapidly withered away as all the water in its body evaporated. As for that spinning black monster

core that was returning, Lin Ming snatched it in his hands.

The monster core of a third-stage Life Destruction monster could be considered a great fortune. If a martial artist directly swallowed it up, it would be useful for one's cultivation. In addition, it could also be used to refine pills. Since Lin Ming had decided to step onto the path of becoming an alchemist, he naturally wouldn't miss out on rare water-attribute materials like this.

Chapter 745 – Fighting Xuan Wuji

From the time Lin Ming had appeared to when the strange octopus died, it seemed like a long while, but the truth was that only five to six breaths of time had passed.

Bai Guanyun stared on helplessly as Lin Ming used this tiny bit of time to slaughter the strange octopus whose strength was similar to his as if it were a chicken or dog. In his heart, there was nothing but an inexplicably rising fear.

Both of his legs had been cut off; it was impossible to escape.

How could things turn out like this?

Bai Guanyun felt as if he had gone crazy. Four months ago, Lin Ming only had the strength to barely kill a second stage Life Destruction master. How could his strength progress so quickly!

Normally, for a martial artist to advance a single stage of Life Destruction every few dozen years was already an incredible speed. But Lin Ming had only taken four months to enhance his strength by at least a boundary. This caused Bai Guanyun to fall into a hopeless despair.

But at this time, a billowing whirlpool suddenly appeared in the deep sea. A formidable aura surged forth like an endless tide. Bai Guanyun was suddenly overjoyed. He turned his head to see that not too far away, Xuan Wuji had grasped a jet black lance and was rushing his way over.

“Brother Xuan, save me!”

Bai Guanyun loudly called out for help. But as his voice left him, a burning hot spear appeared like a ghost right in front of his throat.

Ca!

With a faint sound, blood spurted out. Bai Guanyun stared at Lin Ming with wide eyes, unwillingness and disbelief coloring his face. However, as his perception had already faded away, he was no longer able to see anything in the water before him. The only thing that filled his vision was darkness.

Peng!

Bai Guanyun’s true essence protection shattered and sea water came pouring in, crushing Bai Guanyun’s body to nothingness. This was a depth of hundreds of thousands of feet; the pressure was extremely terrifying. Bai Guanyun was not from the deep sea races. Once his human body lost its true essence protection, his eyeballs instantly burst apart, his eardrums perforated, and sea water fluxed into his body, squishing his organs, meridians, muscles, bones, and everything to mush.

Lin Ming calmly took back his spear. With a wave of his hand, he retrieved Bai Guanyun’s spatial ring.

“Lin Ming!”

A voice touched with the tiredness from the endless trials of life echoed outwards. As Lin Ming turned around, he could see that just a thousand feet away in the jet black sea water, Xuan Wuji was floating, pointing a lance straight at Lin Ming.

Lin Ming indifferently waved his spear, meeting Xuan Wuji in return.

On one side was a cold, dark light, and on the other side was a blazing red dawn!

After so many years, Lin Ming had finally gained the capital to stand in front of Xuan Wuji and fight with him!

That young, ordinary youth that had just entered the Seven Profound Martial House now had the ability to declare war on the number one master within the entire South Sea!

As Xuan Wuji looked at Lin Ming, various feelings and emotions filled his heart.

“It should have been nearly five years since my great grandson Xuan Ji was killed by you... no, in less than five years, you’ve risen up from the peak of Pulse Condensation to the late Revolving Core realm. I have investigated your past. When you were 15 years old you were only ordinary, not special at all. Now at just 21 years of age, a bit more than six years’ time, you’ve grown from a mere

common mortal to a top master that can instantly kill a third stage Life Destruction powerhouse. Within the Sky Spill Continent, your speed of cultivation is unprecedented from ancient times until now. I am truly curious; just what secret do you have with you?”

As Xuan Wuji spoke, Lin Ming didn't respond. However, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch that was following behind Xuan Wuji actually blanched. In less than five years he had gone from the peak of Pulse Condensation to the late Revolving Core realm!?

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch only knew that Lin Ming's talent was monstrous. But, he had never been too sure as to what Lin Ming's history was. But now, listening to Xuan Wuji speak, this was the first time that he discovered that Lin Ming was an absolutely heaven-defying monstrous freak of nature!

In five years, to go from the peak of Pulse Condensation to the late Revolving Core, with such a terrifying cultivation speed, only a fool would believe that Lin Ming didn't have some heaven-shattering lucky chance with him!

No wonder Xuan Wuji had been willing to pay any price to capture Lin Ming.

“This is... truly unbelievable, ah...” Xuan Wuji deeply sighed, his eyes flashing with a strange, otherworldly look. “At Revered Master Tianguang's birthday banquet, you fought with Xuan Ji. Although Xuan Ji was only at the Houtian realm, his talent was still extraordinary and he had cultivated the Ancient Devil Arts. With his complete strength he was even able to match a Xiantian

master. However, he was still defeated by you, a mere boy with a trivial Pulse Condensation cultivation!

“At that time, your talent was astonishing, but there were talents like you all over the four Divine Kingdoms, and there were even many young elites that surpassed you. At that time, I was startled by you, but I did not fear you. The reason I wanted to kill you was only because I wanted to avenge Xuan Ji’s death, not because I thought that you had any amazing secret on your body. I never imagined that in such a short time, you will develop to the point where you could threaten me!”

“Afterwards... you entered the Demon God Imperial Palace, and with your little Houtian realm cultivation, you played with us old fellows in the palm of your hand. You stole away the Nirvana Dragon Root and the Cosmic Melting Furnace! The meticulous plans that I laid down for over ten years was actually made into a gift for a little child! How laughable is that! Even now, I still don’t understand. Just how were you so skilled in ancient array formations? How did you obtain all those treasures and then make a grand escape to freedom? You snatched away the Nirvana Dragon Root and Cosmic Melting Furnace and then left for two whole years. Now you’ve returned, and you’ve returned as a complete monster. The reason I was so anxious to flush you out of hiding was because I truly feared you from the very bottom of my heart. I feared you so much that I even imagined days when I would take a nap, and the second I woke up you would have obtained the strength to kill me and would have already come rushing to my door!”

Xuan Wuji said in a single breath. After knowing of Lin Ming’s existence for such a long time, there had been too many questions

pressing down on his mind. The pressure on his heart had increased every day.

“Secret?” Lin Ming faintly smiled. “Xuan Wuji, don’t you know about the existence of the Realm of the Gods? You fear how fast I grow but that is only because you are nothing more than a frog in a well. In the three thousand boundless worlds, there are countless extraordinary young elites just like me. One day, perhaps you will find that everything you’ve chased after in your life is nothing in the eyes of others, nothing but leftover garbage for them to step over.”

“Hahaha!” Xuan Wuji laughed, “What you said is true. There are no limits in this universe; there is always a higher peak, a stronger man. I am truly nothing but a little frog in a well, but I am unwilling to remain so. I am unwilling to chase after things that are nothing but trash in the eyes of others. Thus, I want to leave this world. And you, Lin Ming, you will be my springboard to do so. Perhaps your secret is only garbage to the powerhouses in the Realm of the Gods, but in my eyes, it is the most precious treasure. It is my only hope to break past my limits! Let’s do this! Lin Ming, show me just where the limits of your strength lie!”

As Xuan Wuji spoke, he flourished the lance in his hands and thrust it straight at Lin Ming.

“Take my lance – Sunder the Profound Heavens!”

Bang!

Xuan Wuji's true essence exploded out, forming a massive amount of pressure in the sea. The seawater around Lin Ming suddenly became as hard as iron as it began to envelop him.

Although this pressure wasn't able to harm Lin Ming, it was still able to form a cage around him, sealing the directions where he could escape.

But, the truth was that Lin Ming had no intention of dodging to begin with. A frontal melee was what he desired above all!

True essence revolved in his body as the Heretical God Force was released to its limit. Lin Ming held the red spear, pouring his battle spirit into the spear point. For a time, the entire spear radiated a glorious flaming red light!

Chasing Sun!

The seawater was evaporated by the burning hot energy. Lin Ming's spear stuck Xuan Wuji's lance point!

Bang bang bang!

Two amazing energies collided. The sea water crazily spun around, mixing up from the forces. As the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch saw the situation devolving, he had already long retreated.

“Mm... this is!?!”

In the instant that Xuan Wuji exchanged moves with Lin Ming, he felt an incomparably sharp strength rush into his lance. It was like his heaven-step lance was unable to resist this force, issuing out a keening tremble!

This caused Xuan Wuji to be extremely alarmed!

“Burst!”

Xuan Wuji loudly shouted, detonated the true essence on the lance point. He was driven far back from the energy backlash. As he looked down at the black spear in his hands, he could see that it was still shaking. If this continued, then he couldn't guarantee that his lance wouldn't break!

This was a heaven-step treasure! If it were a high-grade earth-step treasure, it would have absolutely broken apart just now!

Xuan Wuji's vision focused on the red spear in Lin Ming's hands. That spear seemed to be a heaven-step treasure, but there was something strange covering it. Xuan Wuji was completely unable to determine just what rank of treasure it was.

However, even if it were a medium-grade heaven-step treasure, it would still be impossible to create such a terrifying pressure on his heaven-step lance. As Xuan Wuji recalled that incomparably keen strength just now, his heart suddenly trembled.

Could that strength be...

A battle spirit?

The South Sea Demon Region had once been a Holy Land. It's Holy Ruler, the Netherworld Great Emperor, had been a top ranked character within the Sky Spill Continent three thousand years ago. In the ancient texts of their sect, there were certain records of battle spirits.

Xuan Wuji didn't recognize this battle spirit at the start because this power was far too distant a realm for him. So, he simply never thought of it!

“This brat Lin Ming has actually formed his own battle spirit at the late Revolving Core realm? No, that's wrong. According to the description in the ancient texts, this sort of battle spirit is not at a low grade. Lin Ming probably formed his battle spirit at an even earlier boundary! He is still young and yet he comprehended his own battle spirit! Moreover, that spear strike just now didn't contain just a battle spirit. There was also an incomparably mystical Concept of Fire. The profound mystery of this Concept is something that perhaps even Yin Yang Profound Palace Master Xing Ji's own Concept of Fire could not hold a candle to!

Yin Yang Profound palace was a sect that focused on the water and fire cultivation methods, using Yin and Yang elements to complement each other. Xing Ji trained in the fire-attribute and his cultivation was at the second stage of Life Destruction. Xuan Wuji had also once experienced Xing Ji's Concept of Fire. But compared to Lin Ming's own Concept of Fire, it was nothing more

than trash.

“A battle spirit comparable to that of a Divine Sea Supreme Elder and a Concept of Fire that surpasses Xing Ji’s own understanding...” As Xuan Wuji held onto the black lance in his hands, rough and violent waves beginning to churning in his heart.

He had always thought that the reason Lin Ming became such a monstrous genius was because his luck was good and he stumbled onto a massive lucky chance. If Xuan Wuji could obtain this lucky chance, then his achievements would be even greater.

But now, whether it was the Concept of Fire or a battle spirit, neither of those can be attained with just a lucky chance. Battle spirit depended on one’s will and the Concept of Fire looked at one’s perception. Could Lin Ming truly be an unprecedented rare talent?

Xuan Wuji’s complexion sank as he turned grim. He lifted his spear and wiped his right hand on the lance point. Fresh scarlet blood poured onto the lance point and shaft. Then, an incredible scene occurred. In that moment, the black lance seemed to become a bloodthirsty vicious beast, completely absorbing Xuan Wuji’s blood and turning from black to a bright red.

“Lin Ming, I didn’t think that with just a single exchange you’ve already pushed me to the point of making a blood sacrifice to my lance. Today, this battle will decide our life and deaths!”

Chapter 746 – The Disparity Between Them

Xuan Wuji cultivated the Ancient Devil Arts. He could directly sacrifice his own blood essence to his lance to further temper it, obtaining an even greater attack power. However, a martial artist had a limited quantity of blood. He would undoubtedly lose part of his blood vitality because of this move.

Xuan Wuji had no choice. He had to make a blood sacrifice to his lance in this battle with Lin Ming. The main reason was not to increase his striking power, but instead to reinforce his lance. If he hadn't done so, then his lance would have been cut off by Lin Ming's spear in just several collisions.

This sort of disadvantage didn't originate from the difference in ranks of their treasures but from the existence of a battle spirit.

In a battle between heaven-step treasures, when there was only a small difference in rank, there wouldn't be an obvious inferiority if Xuan Wuji's lance struck Lin Ming's spear. But, Lin Ming's spear had a battle spirit poured into it. This caused the sharpness and hardness of his spear to rise by an unbelievably large degree. In the past, when Lin Ming had poured his battle spirit into his high-grade earth-step Purple Comet Spear, he had been able to pierce through the body of a corpse devil which had been tempered by the profound gold divine fruit so that its body stood on par with a heaven-step treasure.

In addition to that, he had received a medium-grade heaven-step spear from the Timeworn Phoenix City that could stand on par with a high-grade heaven-step treasure in terms of hardness. If a

battle spirit were to be attached to such a weapon, the degree of sharpness could be imagined.

Xuan Wuji did not have a battle spirit, thus he did not have the qualifications to directly confront Lin Ming.

Thus, Xuan Wuji could either use a massive amount of true essence to protect his lance or make a blood sacrifice to his lance, injuring himself to attack his enemy.

Blood smeared the corners of Xuan Wuji's mouth. He pointed his lance straight at Lin Ming and said, "In that lance strike just now, I was forced to withdraw my attack midway. Now, I will use everything I have!"

Now that Xuan Wuji and Lin Ming's battle had reached this boiling point, there was no longer any path of retreat! Xuan Wuji had to fight, and this was because he was a man whose heart was filled with ambition. If it was possible, he wanted to not only reach the Divine Sea but also ascend into the Realm of the Gods, seeing and adventuring through a much broader world!

Now, with this lucky chance standing right in front of him, if he didn't fight now, then he was destined to die in another thousand years, his body reduced to ashes by the endless expanse of time!

"Blood Waves Drowning the Skies!"

Xuan Wuji grasped his lance. Because of the wisp of blood essence

he sacrificed to his spear, his originally white face was now flushed red, making him look like a demonic blood monster and the spear in his hands like the scarlet tongue of a devil. Xuan Wuji waved his lance, and a roiling red energy cut towards Lin Ming.

Facing this attack from Xuan Wuji, Lin Ming held his spear flat in his hands, revolving his true essence to the limit. His spear potential and battle spirit constantly rose. In the heavy water pressure hundreds of thousands of feet under the sea, every single move had to be made through the dense water, causing one to use up even more energy and stamina!

Law of Annihilation, Chain of Stars!

As Lin Ming held the red spear shaft, he swept it downwards!

This spear strike was a move that Lin Ming had comprehended after reversing the chain of stars in the God Transforming Mirror's second world. It had no name, but rather contained a trace of the Concept of Annihilation.

As his spear cut out, it tore apart the deep sea, fiercely colliding with Xuan Wuji's lance strike.

Bang!

The entire sea trembled and monstrous surging currents rolled up into a vortex. Thousands of feet away from the battle, a massive amount of sediment was stirred up into gray storms. Several deep

sea vicious beasts that were hiding in the sand were frightened, fleeing in a panic.

Clang clang clang clang clang!

In this storm of sand and water, Lin Ming and Xuan Wuji engaged in a brutal melee!

The two heaven-step treasure weapons fiercely collided, causing the sea current to violently surge. In the high pressure of the deep seas, the water still wouldn't vaporize even when heated to a temperature comparable to molten magma. Every single strike from Lin Ming contained the power of his battle spirit and every single lance strike from Xuan Wuji contained his blood essence!

Demon God force field of the Heavenly Demon martial intent!

As Lin Ming fought, the killing intent on his body became increasingly thick and pure, starting to overwhelm Xuan Wuji with a terrifying oppressive force. The Death God force field was formed from the will of a martial artist's killing intent. If a martial artist didn't have a firm will and they were covered by the Death God force field, then it was possible that the fires of their life would be directly snuffed out.

Even a powerful master would be affected by the Death God force field, unable to utilize their full strength.

"Mm? This brat!" Xuan Wuji was shocked. Lin Ming actually had

this type of domain ability!? Just what had this boy experienced in his life that he had so many abilities that others could only wish for?

“Endless Ghosts Scream, break for me!”

Xuan Wuji turned his lance. On the lance point, a wisp of eerie dark purple flame appeared. For a moment, it was as if countless spirits were crying out in unison, it was as if this wisp of dark purple fire was condensed from the infinite spirits of tortured souls!

Xuan Wuji's lance had killed countless martial artists. It was similar to the Great Desolate Blood Halberd; it used the blood essence and souls of martial artists as nourishment to strengthen itself!

The tortured spirits were constantly melted away by the Death God force field. But the dark purple flame on Xuan Wuji's lance became increasingly vivid!

“Demon God Flash!”

The muscles on Xuan Wuji's face fiercely twisted as he struck out at Lin Ming's head. But, Lin Ming actually didn't dodge or evade this strike. Instead, he thrust out his own spear, straight towards Xuan Wuji's chest.

Law of Annihilation!

Xuan Wuji was startled. Lin Ming completely disregarded a fatal attack to his head and still attacked him. It was like he didn't care for his own life!

With a turn of his lance, the energy that Xuan Wuji poured into it suddenly exploded. With a loud bang, true essence violently surged out. Lin Ming's purely offensive attack had caused both him and Xuan Wuji to be injured.

Lin Ming was sent flying a thousand feet away by the true essence explosion, but Xuan Wuji was no better off. Although he had blocked Lin Ming's spear, the battle spirit infused spear light still continued unabated, piercing through his layers of protective true essence and into his chest. Around 10% of the strike's strength roared into his meridians, recklessly destroying everything there!

Xuan Wuji paled and suppressed this true essence with a great deal of effort. Blood dripped down the corners of his lips.

He was injured!

Xuan Wuji grimaced. Although this was only a minor wound, Lin Ming hadn't even defended and yet he himself had been injured. But no matter how it had happened, the truth was that he had been injured at the hands of a junior only a fraction of his age!

A fourth stage Life Destruction martial artist had been wounded by a mere 20 some year old Revolving Core boy. If the world learned of this, they would say he was nothing more than a joke!

“Boy, since you couldn’t dodge my strike you wanted to engage in a suicidal trade instead! Dream on!” Xuan Wuji sneered. Sometimes, when a martial artist was weaker than others and didn’t have the confidence to defend against another’s moves, they might instead decide to trade injury for injury, forcing the other to withdraw.

But, Xuan Wuji was deeply experienced in combat. He could freely receive and change his strength, always able to change his attack. He simply wouldn’t fall for such tricks. A moment ago, he had temporarily changed the direction of his attack, blocking the majority of the attack. Since Lin Ming hadn’t changed his attack, his injuries should be much worse.

However, Xuan Wuji’s taunting smile only lasted for several breaths of time, before it froze on his face. He looked at Lin Ming with wide eyes. At Lin Ming’s chest, the clothing had been ripped apart by the true essence explosion. However, there was only a shallow bloody wound on his chest that was regenerating at a speed visible to the naked eye.

“How is this possible?”

Xuan Wuji was bewildered. His lance light had obviously struck Lin Ming. Even if it was weakened by Lin Ming’s bodily true essence protection it should still be able to grievously wound him. How could it only cause such a minor wound?

Xuan Wuji didn’t even have time to think about what had just

happened; Lin Ming's spear was already shooting towards him once again!

This spear strike contained all of Lin Ming's true essence. It caused all the heaven and earth origin energy in a scope of 10 miles to spin around. In that moment, space twisted and the sea boiled!

As this spear thrust out, the high pressure sea water was split apart, forming a vacuum tunnel. Within Lin Ming's body, the Heretical God Seed howled as the Burning Star Flame surged outwards.

Bury the Heavens!

In this strike, the power of space fused with the Concept of Fire. Using the tempestuous space flows like a wind, it helped to increase the power of fire!

Xuan Wuji's expression became ferocious. He stabbed out his lance again and again!

“Emperor Arriving In the World!”

Ka ka ka!

Xuan Wuji's lance issued out a keening cry as if it couldn't support itself much longer. But Lin Ming's spear shot forwards with unstoppable force, arriving right in front of Xuan Wuji. Around the edge of the spear, space tore apart and countless space

fragments flew out like steel needles, cutting through the deep sea!

“This move is!?”

Xuan Wuji's pupils shrank. His lance had reached the limit yet again!

Turning the lance, Xuan Wuji bit down on his tongue, forcefully spitting out more blood essence onto the lance edge!

Peng!

A massive amount of sea water vaporized, turning the entire seabed into a world of hazy fog. Xuan Wuji had drawn back more than 200 feet, his face flushed red with blood as he gasped for breath in deep, heaving gulps.

Hundreds of thousands of feet under the deep sea, every ability used here would consume over twice the energy it took on the surface. In this fierce battle, Xuan Wuji had already consumed a great deal of his true essence.

Because Lin Ming was still over an entire boundary lower than Xuan Wuji, he had been forced back 1000 feet. But, compared to Xuan Wuji, his complexion still hadn't changed. There was not a single drop of sweat on his body; he still had plenty of strength left!

Even after using Chasing Sun, Penetrating Rainbow, the Laws of

Annihilation, Bury the Heavens, and engaging in a brutal melee for a short period of time, he still had plenty of energy. It had to be known that in the later parts of the God Transforming Mirror's second world, when the meteors there reached a mile and a half wide in diameter, Lin Ming would have to use Bury the Heavens to defend against them. As for the two mile wide meteors, Lin Ming would have to reverse the chain of stars.

Even in this case, if Lin Ming was completely earnest in his battle, he could last for over a 100 breaths of time!

This had caused Realm of the Gods powerhouses like Fairy Feng to praise him and for young elites like Huo Wenlong to fall into crippling despair from his success!

The reason that Lin Ming had such a great endurance was because he had opened the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. With the tempering of the Ancient Phoenix bloodline, his blood vitality now greatly exceeded even an extraordinary individual's!

In these aspects, Xuan Wuji simply couldn't compare to Lin Ming.

Not only did Lin Ming dominate in endurance, but he dominated in terms of defensive ability too. With 100% Tempering Marrow along with the tempering from the profound gold divine fruit, Lin Ming's body was similar to a high-grade earth-step treasure. He could easily engage Xuan Wuji in a battle of attrition.

Thus, even if Lin Ming's striking power was below Xuan Wuji's,

if they continued fighting, then Xuan Wuji would no longer be able to support himself after another half incense stick of time!

Raising his spear, Lin Ming attacked again.

Bury the Heavens!

This was the same move as the last. True essence erupted from the red spear and space fragments cut out like shredding knives. Sea water was twisted into a giant whirlpool as the entire seabed vaporized.

As Xuan Wuji saw Lin Ming's attack only increase in aura and potential, his eyes finally flashed with a trace of fear.

How was this possible? Was this boy's body a puppet or something!?

Chapter 747 – The 100,000 Mile Chase

Bang!

With another violent explosion, Xuan Wuji was only able to barely defend against Lin Ming's Bury the Heavens. Under the shockwaves, he was sent flying back thousands of feet. In the shifting tide of the battle, Xuan Wuji's minimal advantage against Lin Ming had already disappeared.

As for Lin Ming, after he was forced back several hundred feet, he shook his long spear and stabbed towards Xuan Wuji again.

Penetrating Rainbow!

A blazing spear light pierced through the deep sea. At this time, Xuan Wuji was still exhausted. He hadn't even managed to conjure up any new strength before Lin Ming's strike came hurtling towards him once again.

Bang!

Xuan Wuji coughed stuffily as he was sent flying away. The tumbling blood in his body was barely suppressed by his true essence.

The difference in their remaining strength was only growing!

Chasing Sun!

Bury the Heavens!

Law of Annihilation, Chain of Stars!

Lin Ming used move after move, completely overwhelming Xuan Wuji!

How was this possible!?!?

Xuan Wuji felt the blood surging up in his body as wounds accumulated all over him. As he faced Lin Ming's non-stop barrage of increasingly powerful attacks, fear finally began to bloom in his heart, causing him to draw back. He was truly ambitious, but in this situation where his chances of success were becoming increasingly slim, he wasn't stupid enough bring himself to death's door.

Escape?

This thought flashed through Xuan Wuji's mind. He indeed had some cards left in his hands, but facing this inexhaustible puppet-like Lin Ming, Xuan Wuji already felt a tinge of fear. He feared that even if he used every final card in his hands he still couldn't kill him. If that happened, then he wouldn't even have the chance to escape anymore.

With twist of his hand, Xuan Wuji took out an ash gray pill from

his spatial ring. This pill was refined from 10,000 year old milk stalactite. After swallowing it, it could rapidly restore 30% of one's true essence. It could be said to be a miracle medicine capable of reversing any battle.

There was still a vast distance from here to the Sky Spill Continent. Xuan Wuji only had less than 40% of his true essence left. If he didn't supplement it, then it would be impossible for him to return.

With a flick of his finger, Xuan Wuji grudgingly swallowed down the pill, immediately turning around to escape!

“You want to run away?”

Lin Ming's eye flashed with a thick killing intent. If he didn't remove the weed by the roots then there would always be a viper aiming at him from the dark. After suffering a lesson from Ouyang Boyan, Lin Ming would not allow this kind of matter to repeat itself again.

True essence erupted and a battle spirit infused Asura force field spread out at the speed of light. The force field instantly overtook Xuan Wuji, leaving behind an undetectable battle spirit mark on his body.

Lin Ming had used this battle spirit mark once in the Eternal Demon Abyss to search for an exit from the 1000 mile forbidden zone and also once in the South Sea Demon region to chase down the numerous escaping masters there. If one didn't have a battle

spirit like Lin Ming, then it was impossible to detect it, much less remove it.

After leaving behind this battle spirit mark, Lin Ming would be able to find Xuan Wuji even if he fled to the ends of the earth.

“Demonshine, have the Giant Leviathan float back up to the surface to recuperate its wounds. I will chase down Xuan Wuji!”

“Okay!” Demonshine chuckled, “Hunting down and killing others is what this Saint likes the most!”

Lin Ming received his red spear and stepped with Golden Roc Shattering the Void, instantly chasing after Xuan Wuji.

In the deep sea, it moving forwards was very slow. In addition, every step forwards required several times more energy it took than to fly. Xuan Wuji didn't have much of his original energy remaining to begin with, thus he naturally needed to run out of the sea first.

Bang!

Sea water exploded, forming a massive spray of water hundreds of feet high. Xuan Wuji shot up into the heavens, flying straight towards the north. As he flew, he took out an enchantment bead from his spatial ring and tossed it behind him.

Xuan Wuji had used this kind of enchantment bead once before

in the Demon God Imperial Palace to block Abbot Whitebrow and the others from chasing after him. If it hadn't been for Lin Ming tinkering with the transmission array and changing it, then Xuan Wuji would have had enough time to escape.

Bang!

The bead burst apart at the sea level, forming a blue hued enchantment barrier that sealed up the water surface like a glass wall. As soon Lin Ming ran out his speed dropped as he was caught by this enchantment.

“Break!”

Lin Ming thrust out his spear. With his battle spirit infused into it, he struck the enchantment barrier. This blue barrier that had originally been able to withstand both Nanyun Wang's attacks and Abbot Whitebrow's Bright Buddha Palm Seal now had countless cracks appear through it.

“Break again!”

Lin Ming thrust his spear out a second time. This time, the enchanted barrier completely collapsed. He stepped on the void, turning towards Xuan Wuji and chasing after him.

“This brat!”

Xuan Wuji's mind went cold. Although he knew Lin Ming's

striking power was formidable, he didn't that that his enchantment bead would only be able to stop Lin Ming for a single breath of time.

“3000 miles to the north is a transmission array of my South Sea Demon Region. As long as I can pass through it first and destroy it from the other side, I can expel Lin Ming from the space channel. With that, I should be safe.”

“Mystic Thunder Wings!”

Xuan Wuji formed a series of seals with his hands. Then, clothes on his back tore apart, revealing a pair of purple wings that stretched out. This was a flight-type treasure that was refined with plumes from several different Saint Beasts. It could improve Xuan Wuji's speed to a certain degree.

“This boy is too difficult to deal with. Fortunately, this flight treasure that I refined can finally show its use. With it, it shouldn't be a problem to increase my speed by 20-30%.

Xuan Wuji unfurled his two wings, shooting forwards like an arrow. Wherever he went, a terrifying sonic boom formed, rumbling through the air like a moving thunderstorm. Even the sea surface was split apart from the wind pressure!

In a single go, Xuan Wuji was able to fly out several hundred miles. As he swept his perception behind him, a chill crept up his spine. Lin Ming was still chasing him! Not just that, but he was closing the distance between them!

“How could this be!?”

Xuan Wuji was greatly shocked. Even though he was flying at full speed and had the support of a flight treasure boosting him, he was still slower than Lin Ming!

He discovered that with every single step Lin Ming took he would cross several miles. Space twisted underneath his feet as if it shrunk. With just a several steps the gap closed by several dozen miles!

What kind of movement was this!?

Xuan Wuji grit his teeth, revolving his true essence to the limit. To a character like him, a 3000 mile distance didn't take long to traverse all. But now that he was being chased down by Lin Ming, this distance actually became a trial of life or death!

The distance between them increasingly shortened. If this continued for another half incense stick of time, then Lin Ming would catch up to him. Once he was embroiled in another battle with Lin Ming, running away again would be far harder.

Xuan Wuji cursed aloud and clenching his teeth, cutting a line across his wrist with his fingernail. This was the third time that he would be using his blood essence. Two drops of blood essence shot out, one to each wing. The Mystic Thunder Wings turned a blood red and his speed rose up once again!

After using his blood essence three times, even though he only used a few drops every time, it would still accumulate. Even Xuan Wuji wouldn't be able to continue like this. In this battle, his life source had already been damaged. If he wanted to restore it, it would take at least several dozen years of time and a massive amount of heavenly treasures.

“This damned boy!”

Xuan Wuji was breathless with anger. The chances of him obtaining the secret on Lin Ming's body was becoming increasingly slim, not to mention that the South Sea Demon Region was already 90% destroyed by Lin Ming. His losses had been far too great!

“I will no longer care about the South Sea Demon Region. After I leave the South Horizon Region, I will go straight to the four Divine Kingdoms!”

Xuan Wuji and Lin Ming flew after one another, causing massive explosions on the sea's surface from the high speed sonic booms that they created. After making a blood essence sacrifice to his wings, Xuan Wuji had finally been able to create some additional distance from Lin Ming. Now, the transmission array was directly in front of him!

This was a transmission array established on a desolate island. There were originally South Sea Demon Region disciples protecting it, but now that the South Sea Demon Region was in a state of near dissolution, these disciples had long fled to lands

unknown.

Xuan Wuji fell to the ground like a cannon strike. As he hit the floor, a massive crater formed from the impact, shaking the island and causing rock formations all over to collapse.

“The transmission array is still here!”

Xuan Wuji was overjoyed. He ran into the transmission array, and with a flick of his fingers, true essence stones flew into the four corners of the transmission array.

The array formation was activated!

After seeing the blazing comet that was Lin Ming closing in from a distance, Xuan Wuji’s eyes flashed with hatred. “One day, this old man will have you pay the price for today!”

In the next moment, Xuan Wuji’s hideous expression completely disappeared in the transmission array.

“Mm? He ran through a transmission array?”

Lin Ming fell down to the island and swept his perception around. He instantly understood the principles behind this transmission array. This was the most ordinary of transmission arrays; it would at most send someone 100-200,000 miles away.

“Xuan Wuji will definitely destroy the exit of this transmission array when I’m inside, forcing me out of the space channel.”

For a small transmission array like this, if there was a problem in the transmission process, it would be life-threatening for a martial artist with a weaker cultivation. But, for someone like Lin Ming, this was not a problem. At most he would pop out halfway through.

Lin Ming jumped onto the transmission array and launched the array formation. Space twist, and in the next moment, Lin Ming entered the space channel.

A transmission channel of several tens of thousands of miles could last from a dozen to several dozen breaths of time. As soon as ten breaths of time passed, the space channel suddenly shook and the power of space began to chaotically distort. Massive cracks began appearing in the space channel. It was obvious that the exit was being destroyed by Xuan Wuji!

Hu hu hu!

From the cracks in the space channel, a massive overflow of turbulent space began to flood inside, forming a black storm that swept towards Lin Ming. If a martial artist with insufficient cultivation were swept up by this storm, they would be shredded apart and die. Even for a martial artist that was strong enough, they would still be thrust out of the space channel, terminating the transmission process.

Facing this sort of situation, Lin Ming didn't panic at all. He flicked all 10 of his fingers, forming a number of true essence air flows that shot out. After the menacing space storm was struck by the true essence air, it actually began to rapidly fade away, and soon subsided after several breaths of time.

Compared to the super long-distance array formation that Lin Ming had experienced before, violent space turbulence of this degree was nothing at all. With Lin Ming's comprehension towards the Concept of Space, he could actually break apart the turbulent power of space and forcefully complete the transmission.

“Set for me!”

Lin Ming thrust out his spear, stabbing it into the space barrier around him. The space channel that was about to break apart was actually forcefully stabilized by Lin Ming.

“The exit coordinates are around 70-80,000 miles from here!”

With the exit destroyed, the transmission coordinates would blur. Lin Ming wasn't a god. Although he could rely on his understanding of Space Laws to forcefully complete the transmission, he still lacked the exact coordinates of the exit point.

However, with the battle spirit mark that Lin Ming had left on Xuan Wuji, he could use that to approximate the location of it.

“There is still around 30,000 miles.”

Lin Ming confirmed the position once again.

“20,000 miles... 10,000 miles... it’s nearby!”

Shatter!

Lin Ming stabbed his spear into the space channel barriers. In the next moment, space collapsed and Lin Ming was flushed out from the space channel.

Chapter 748 – Chase Through the South Horizon Region

Because the exit to the transmission array was destroyed, Lin Ming had forcefully stabilized the space channel, eventually stalling him for a period of time. After he emerged, Xuan Wuji had already vanished.

“Is this a series of transmission arrays?”

Lin Ming could feel that the battle spirit mark he left on Xuan Wuji was already fleeing at a ridiculous speed. There was only one possibility and that was that Xuan Wuji had entered another transmission array.

Casting a net with his perception, Lin Ming quickly found the transmission array. This island was obviously a transmission array transit station that the South Sea Demon Region had established. The entire island was protected by an illusionary array formation, making it well hidden. There were also some towers on this island, that should have been where the disciples who protected the island lived, but now the towers had long been emptied.

Besides the towers were several large and small transmission arrays, each of them 100 to 200 feet in diameter. Lin Ming estimated that they should have a range of 100 to 200,000 miles.

Among these transmission arrays, one of them had been destroyed. It was clear that this was the one Xuan Wuji had just emerged from.

Additionally, besides this ruined transmission array, there were 3 to 4 similar transmission arrays. One of them was still shining with light, releasing fluctuations of energy that indicated that it had just been activated.

Without a doubt, Xuan Wuji had gone through this transmission array. While Xuan Wuji could destroy the exit of a transmission array, he couldn't destroy the entrance, otherwise, even he couldn't pass through.

After Lin Min understood the principles behind these transmission arrays, he stepped into another transmission array, launching it once more!

....

At this time, several hundred thousand miles away from the South Sea Demon Region, in the valley of a remote mountain range, there were 7 to 8 martial artists sitting in a circle near a group transmission arrays.

“Senior-apprentice Brother, I heard that the 70 to 80% of the South Sea Demon Region was destroyed. What should we do now? Should we continue waiting?”

Among these martial artists, a 20 some year old youth asked the red-clothed martial artist that led them.

These people were disciples of a third-grade sect in the South Horizon Region. They were situated here specifically to guard the transmission arrays.

The South Horizon Region was an incomparably broad land with many transmission array transit points. Because of the sky high cost of construction, several sects would often group together to build the transmission arrays. Then, since they collected fees for their use, they naturally had to send disciples to protect them.

However, several years ago the South Sea Demon Region had invaded the South Horizon Region. The three great fourth-grade sects of the South Horizon Region were Divine Phoenix Island, Dire Space Sect, and Supreme Mystery Temple. These sects had been slowly annihilated, one at a time. Since these third-grade sects had lost their supporters, they naturally became subordinate sects of the South Sea Demon Region.

As for the transmission array network in the South Horizon Region, these were naturally taken by the South Sea Demon Region.

It often required multiple people to guard a transmission array transit point. Because there were so many of these transit points, it was impossible for the South Sea Demon Region to send guards to every single one. Normally, they would send a single South Sea Demon Region disciple to the transmit point and the rest of the staff was filled in by disciples from smaller sects.

All of these people, without exception, had a spell placed on them by the South Sea Demon Region. If they ever tried to rebel, their

fates could be imagined.

But now, they heard the news that the South Sea Demon Region was razed several times by Lin Ming and was on the verge of being completely extinguished. The Demon Region disciples didn't dare to stay in the South Sea and had flocked back to their homelands in the South Horizon Region and other places. Since things had reached this point, they had no idea what to do.

“Don't talk so carelessly. Although the South Sea Demon Region has suffered some setbacks, a centipede that's been cut in half can still live on. Even its remains are something that we can't contend with. Moreover, in the South Horizon Region, the South Sea Demon Region's influence hasn't been affected too greatly. There are still Elders here keeping command. If our conversation were to be known by them, then we would undoubtedly die.”

“Yah, unfortunately, Great Hero Lin has only rampaged around the South Sea area. If he could come to the South Horizon Region then the South Sea Demon Region branch here would probably instantly dissolve. Perhaps when that happens, our spells will be undone and we can obtain our freedom...” in the circle of martial artists, a yellow-clothed girl whispered in a quiet voice.

“Shh, don't say that! We still have a Demon Envoy from the South Sea Demon Region at our island. If he heard our words, then consequences would be dire. Moreover, I heard that around four months ago, Lin Ming was trapped along with the Giant Leviathan in a deep sea trench 300,000 feet under the sea by Xuan Wuji. It's hard to estimate how long Lin Ming can hold out. Once Lin Ming is defeated, Xuan Wuji will rejoin the South Sea Demon Region and

become its rallying point. It won't be difficult for him to reform the South Sea Demon Region as most of their disciples are still alive..." The red-clothed martial artist sighed as he mulled over the situation in the South Sea.

In these past months, Lin Ming had virtually become a figure of indomitable faith of the entire South Horizon Region. With just his strength alone, he had captured the Giant Leviathan and then killed his way into the South Sea Demon Region, razing it to the ground multiple times and killing thousands of South Sea Demon Region disciples, which even included the majority of the Elders stationed there.

Such a series of victories were simply a heaven gifted miracle!

What was even more miraculous was that Lin Ming was only 20 or so years old with a Revolving Core cultivation. He took advantage of the period when Xuan Wuji was in closed-door seclusion to repeatedly ruin the South Sea Demon Region.

However, Xuan Wuji had now left his seclusion and had even broken through to the fourth stage of Life Destruction. In the face of such a mighty Xuan Wuji, could Lin Ming still withstand it?

Hearing the red-clothed martial artist's words, the yellow-clothed girl gripped her fists. "Nothing will happen to Great Hero Lin! That's right, I heard before that Great Hero Lin also came from the Seven Profound Valleys. Doesn't that mean he is from the same sect as Brother Jiang?"

The yellow-clothed girl suddenly remembered the rumors so she asked the red-clothed martial artist this question.

“That’s right...” The red-clothed martial artist named Brother Jiang suddenly seemed sad as he heard this question. Lin Ming had truly originated from his Seven Profound Valleys. Moreover, he had even become the champion of the Seven Profound Valleys’ Total Faction Martial Meeting. No one had ever imagined that in the near future, Lin Ming would become a top master of the South Horizon Region only inferior to Xuan Wuji!

As he remembered the past, it was like everything had been a dream.

The yellow-clothed girl’s eyes shined brightly as she heard the red-clothed martial artist’s words. “Brother Jiang, can you tell me about Great Hero Lin’s adventures in the Seven Profound Valleys?”

The red-clothed martial artist shook his head. He ruefully smiled and said, “I am only an outer court disciple of the Seven Profound Valleys. At the Total Faction Martial Meeting, I was only able to sit in the audience and watch the fight onstage from a distance. Although Lin Ming and I are from the same sect, the truth is that our paths have never intersected...”

As the red-clothed martial artist spoke to here, his complexion suddenly changed. He quickly whispered, “Don’t say anything, the Demon Envoy is here!”

As his voice fell, a black-clothed South Sea Demon Region martial

artist at the early Xiantian realm appeared in front of them like a ghost.

His sharp and cruel eyes swept over the group. He coldly said, “Gathering together to spread rumors, hm? I advise you lot to smarten up. Lin Ming has already been sealed by the Great Elder 300,000 feet deep in a sea trench. Soon, the Great Elder will solve the problem that is Lin Ming. Once the Great Elder reaches the Divine Sea realm, the South Sea Demon Region will rise to become a Holy Land. We will rule over the entire south region of the Sky Spill Continent and establish our own Divine Kingdom in the future. For you lot to become early subjects of our Divine Kingdom, all of you should feel honored!”

“Yes, Sir Envoy!” The red-clothed martial artist ignored the black-clothed martial artists bragging and secretly relaxed, replying in a respectful tone.

The black-clothed martial artist nodded with satisfaction. Just as he was about to speak some more, the transmission array near them suddenly flashed with a blazing light.

“Mm? Some people have arrived?”

The black-clothed martial artist’s heart stirred. For the first several months after the South Sea Demon Region was razed by Lin Ming, there were often disciples of the South Sea Demon Region come from the South Sea, all of the returning to the South Horizon Region branch to seek safety. They feared that if they remain in the South Sea they would be chased and killed by Lin Ming. But these days, ever since Lin Ming was sealed 300,000 feet

deep in a sea trench, the transmission array hadn't been used much.

At this time, the shining light emitting from the transmission array suddenly brightened to an unbearable degree. A black ray of light shot into the horizon, causing the very earth to tremble.

The black-clothed martial artist's complexion immediately changed. "Who is brave that they dare to forcefully accelerate the transmission array just to save some time! This will overload the transmission array and could possibly cause permanent damage! Once there is an accident, the losses will be immeasurable! Just which dastardly fellow dares to mess around like this!"

The black-clothed martial artist seethed with anger. He traced his spatial ring, extracting a long spear as he prepared to capture this arrogant fellow on the spot.

However, as the rays of light faded away, there was suddenly a pallid black-clothed middle-aged man standing in the array formation.

"You overly arrogant bastard, you can..." The black-clothed martial artist words were suddenly caught in his throat. For a time, his face entire face twisted into something like a strange array formation.

"G-G-G-G-Great Elder!"

The black-clothed martial artist stuttered. As a disciple of the South Sea Demon Region, he naturally knew of Xuan Wuji. Although he had never met him personally, he had still seen portraits.

Moreover, the aura and unfathomable cultivation of the black-clothed man in front of him proved beyond a doubt that this was Xuan Wuji!

“How would this... isn’t Elder Xuan trapping Lin Ming in the deep sea? Why would he come to the South Horizon Region branch? Could he have killed Lin Ming already?”

The black-clothed martial artist’s mind raced even as he stood there stock still as if he had been petrified. But, behind the black-clothed martial artist, those several third-grade sect disciples were dumbfounded when they heard the black-clothed martial artist refer to this newcomer as ‘Great Elder’.

Because of problems in the background and the legacy of the South Sea Demon Region, there were several great clans. Each of these great clans had their own Sovereign.

But, there was only a single Great Elder. And that was the number one master of the South Sea-Xuan Wuji!

Was this black-clothed martial artist Xuan Wuji? Could such a legendary character actually appear right in front of them?

It had to be known that they normally couldn't even see a Revolving Core martial artist, much less this Xuan Wuji was a fourth-grade Life Destruction powerhouse. To them, he could be called a god.

“Even if I just look at him I can feel my very soul shivering; it's like I have no choice but to bow my head down before him. He is truly worthy of being called the top master of the South Sea!” The red-clothed martial artist thought with rising horror. Just by standing in front of Xuan Wuji he could feel a deep pressure pushing down on him. “Why... Xuan Wuji... it seems as if he's injured!?”

Whether it was the several third-grade sect disciples or the black-clothed martial artist, all of them noticed the wounds covering Xuan Wuji. All of his clothes had been torn and he was covered with blood. Without a doubt, Xuan Wuji had just emerged from a fierce battle just now!

Just who was it? Who had the ability to contend with Xuan Wuji to this degree?

After Xuan Wuji appeared, he first swallowed down a pill. Without further ado, he turned around and slammed out his palm!

Bang!

The transmission array shattered!

The black-clothed martial artist could only watch helplessly as this happened. He was dumbstruck; just what was going on?

“Great... Great Elder, you...” The black-clothed martial artist trembled as he spoke.

“Get out of my way!”

Xuan Wuji roared out. The black-clothed martial artist shook and he collapsed just from the sound waves! With a wave of his voluminous sleeves, Xuan Wuji shot into the skies!

The eruption of energy caused winds to surge out in all directions, the seven to eight third-grade sect martial artists were blown away. Those with weaker cultivations felt their blood tumble in their bodies as they suffered minor wounds.

Chapter 749 – The Death of Xuan Wuji

“Can... can someone tell me... just what the f*ck is going on!?”

The black-clothed martial crawled up from the ground, his mouth full of blood. Xuan Wuji’s loud shout just now had shocked his organs, damaging them. Luckily, Xuan Wuji hadn’t used too much true essence, otherwise, the black-clothed martial artist would have been grounded to a pulp.

The black-clothed martial artist couldn’t understand what was happening. What had happened to Xuan Wuji that he became so anxious? Why had he destroyed the transmission array? Was he being chased down by someone?

It wasn’t just the black-clothed martial artist that thought this; all of the other martial artists present had this thought too.

Xuan Wuji’s entire body had been covered with wounds. Not just that, but he had forcefully revolved the energy of the transmission array to speed it up and had destroyed the transmission array in a panicked haste before soaring away. All of this made it seem as if he was truly being chased down by someone, but how could that even be possible!?

In the entire South Sea, just who had the strength to chase down Xuan Wuji?

As everyone just thought of this, the already destroyed transmission array actually began to shine again!

“This... this is...!”

The black-clothed martial artist stared with wide eyes. How could someone possibly come out of this transmission array!? It was impossible! This transmission array had already be ruined so how could it possibly be used? If someone was still inside when it was destroyed they might lose themselves in the chaotic space turbulence, ripped to shreds by the vast space storm!

Bang bang bang!

The sound of thunder rumbled in the air. The winds and cloud stirred as the world seemed to lose its color. In a radius of 10 miles, all of the surrounding heaven and earth origin energy began to rush towards the center, forming a terrifying tornado. A blazing red beam of light shot into the sky, piercing through heavens. The earth trembled, countless cracks appearing like a spider's web.

“Is this really a transmission!?”

The black-clothed martial artist eyes' went so wide that they nearly popped out of his head. As for the several other third-grade sect martial artist, all of them were completely dumbfounded. This brilliant and beautiful red light reached a crescendo and a scene that they would never forget in their lives occurred right before them.

A hundred feet away, the void seemed to fiercely twist together. Then, with a loud thunderclap, half of a red spear appeared in thin

air as if it had just torn through the very fabric of space!

With this spear, a tear appeared in the world. From this space crack, a blue-clothed youth calmly stepped out. His entire body was wreathed in ghostly flames and sizzling purple electricity. With a red spear in hand, he was like a god of war incarnate!

He was...

The black-clothed martial artist was completely shocked. Even though the transmission array had been destroyed he had still forcefully completed the transmission. With absolute power, he held up the space channel by himself, forcefully tearing through space with his spear and stepping out like a gust of wind.

Was he even human!?

Although the black-clothed martial artist was only at the Xiantian realm, he could still be considered to be greatly experienced. He had never heard of someone casually tearing apart space and opening a space channel to cross the endless void.

Was this youth a Divine Sea powerhouse?

Not... he was too young, at most he seemed... just over 20!

At a mere 20 some years old, to rip apart space, could he be a Crown Prince from the four Divine Kingdoms?

Even a Divine Kingdom Crown Prince should not have such strength!

The black-clothed martial artist head had become a muddled mess. As for the red-clothed martial artist, his heart was tumbling with great quakes. Although this youth in front of him had slightly changed in appearance and temperament, he could still see familiar shades in that face. He appeared to be... Lin Ming!?

As the blue-clothed youth appeared he quickly glanced around at the crowd, seeming a bit surprised. But, he soon regained his utter calm and no longer bothered with these juniors. Stepping on Golden Roc Shattering the Void, he shrunk the space beneath him, flying towards the far horizon at an alarming speed as he chased behind Xuan Wuji.

The black-clothed martial artist was only able to look helplessly on. Just how many miles had Lin Ming crossed in a single step? It looked no different than if he were teleporting forwards, completely bamboozling anyone that witnessed it. Just what sort of godly movements were that?

That was definitely teleportation!

“Who... who was that?” The yellow-clothed girl’s lips shivered. Although that youth didn’t look much older than she was, how could he have such strength?

He was like a god that descended to earth.

“He is Lin Ming!”

The red-clothed martial artist suddenly shouted out, his voice exuberant and filled with respect.

“Lin Ming!?”

The black-clothed martial artist cried out.

From the direction that he flew, he was clearly chasing after Xuan Wuji. Had Xuan Wuji been reduced to this state because he was being chased after by Lin Ming?

It wasn't just the black-clothed martial artist that realized this but everyone else did too.

Rumors said that Lin Ming had been trapped by Xuan Wuji 300,000 miles under the sea in a trench for over four months. How did the situation suddenly reversed, and Xuan Wuji ended up being the one chased by Lin Ming instead?

The yellow-clothed girl covered her mouth with her hands. Although she had heard stories about Lin Ming's majesty, seeing was believing. After she witnessed Lin Ming today, she realized that the Lin Ming in her mind was far inferior to the true Lin Ming!

“Quickly report this to the sect; do not allow the Demon Envoy to discover this. Do this as quickly as possible!’ The red-clothed youth shook his head as if he had awoken from a dream and quickly sent out a true essence sound transmission to everyone.

The other martial artists were stunned. If Lin Ming could chase down Xuan Wuji, didn’t that mean that there wasn’t a single existence in the entire south Sea Demon Region that could contend with Lin Ming? Didn’t this mean that he would win the South Sea war?

Victory!?

The several third-grade sect martial artists were dazed and out of their minds. This was an incomparable distance concept. After the events of the Demon God Imperial Palace, the Wartime Alliance had suffered defeat after defeat before finally being destroyed. To them, victory had already become a forgotten word...

As the several third-grade sect martial artists were thinking to report this news to their sect, the South Sea Demon Region’s black-clothed martial artist also felt the same. He had to pass this news to the South Sea Demon Region’s branch in the South Horizon Region as soon as possible.

Like this, before even an incense stick of time passed, several sound transmitting talismans flared up, the news of this monumental event spreading like a tide.

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“Lin Ming! You!” As Xuan Wuji saw Lin Ming chasing after him once again, his expression greatly changed. “How is this possible!? I’ve already destroyed the transmission array so how can he chase me here!?”

Xuan Wuji could not imagine what Lin Ming had done. This had already surpassed his scope of understanding.

Lin Ming remained completely silent. As he held onto his red spear, he pursued after Xuan Wuji!

With every second he closed in more and more!

The power of the blood essence that Xuan Wuji had poured into the Mystic Thunder Wings was already slowly exhausting. In this shifting chase, Lin Ming’s speed increasingly surpassed Xuan Wuji’s.

10 miles!

5 miles!

3 miles!

He was already in the range of attack!

“Lin Ming, don’t force me!” Xuan Wuji roared out.

But at this moment, Lin Ming had already attacked!

With a thrust of his spear, space itself twisted. Blazing heat from the Burning Star Flame erupted. As Lin Ming poured his battle spirit into his spear, it became like a blue rainbow, shooting across the endless sky!

Bury the Heavens!

Bang!

Xuan Wuji forcefully blocked this attack but his body shook and a trail of blood dripped down from the sides of his mouth. At this time he had already consumed 50 to 60% of his remaining true essence; he was now fundamentally incapable of fighting Lin Ming anymore.

“Lin Ming, I have a great number of the Demon Emperor’s secrets in my hands! If you kill me you will never obtain them!”

“The Demon Emperor’s secrets?” Lin Ming faintly smiled. “Xuan Wuji, I already said before that everything you’ve pursued your entire life might be trash in the eyes of others. Although the Demon Emperor’s relics might be worthwhile to me, it is still a run-of-the-mill treasure. As for killing you, that temptation is greater than any treasure by far! Now die!!!”

Law of Annihilation, Chain of Stars!

Lin Ming's spear cut straight down, tearing apart space. All of the surrounding heaven and earth origin energy began to restlessly move. Origin energy condensed into tiny fragments, spinning like a chain of stars. With Xuan Wuji at the center, all these fragments shot towards him!

If Xuan Wuji couldn't dodge these, then his fate was to be pierced by 10,000 arrows!

“Power of my blood essence, explode!”

Xuan Wuji fiercely bit down on his tongue, spitting out even more blood essence. Now, the only thing he had left to rely on was the power of his blood essence. However, just as he spat this blood essence halfway, his face suddenly twisted!

After using his blood essence repeatedly, Xuan Wuji had already damaged the fires of his life. In a situation where his life force was incredibly weak, in addition to the long distance pursuit he had experienced, Xuan Wuji had finally suffered a backlash. He spat out a mouthful of blood, his heart source injured.

“No-!!!”

After his move was stopped midway, Xuan Wuji no longer had any strength to resist. With his body at the center, countless concentrated fragments of heaven and earth origin energy exploded. Xuan Wuji miserably screamed as his entire body was soaked in blood. He flew backwards like a deflated bag.

In that attack just now, Xuan Wuji's organs had been damaged in many places and his meridians had been torn to pieces!

Lin Ming's eyes filled with a thick killing intent. At this time, he had also used up 40 to 50% of the energy in his body. If Xuan Wuji still had extra strength left over it would have been much more difficult to chase him down and kill him.

Bury the Heavens!

A spear cut out, seeming to split the sky in half. Lin Ming revolved his energy to the limit, stabbing out at the space between Xuan Wuji's eyebrows!

On the verge of death, Xuan Wuji forcefully twisted his body. He managed to save his vital point, but his right arm and shoulder were slashed off by Lin Ming's spear. As his bloody arm spun away, it was suddenly torn to tiny bits by the sharp space fragments before being crushed into nothingness!

Although he had escaped this fatal blow, Xuan Wuji was now a lamp with no more oil. His death was inevitable.

Lin Ming spun around, stepping on Golden Roc Shattering the Void. He instantly appeared behind Xuan Wuji, his spear thrusting straight into his back.

“Die!”

Blood shot out. The red spear ripped apart Xuan Wuji's protective true essence and stabbed right into his mortal body!

Puff!

Xuan Wuji felt an icy coldness at the center of his being. As he looked down, he could see a bloody red spear emerging from his chest.

As Xuan Wuji looked at the bloodstained spear, his eyes turned perfectly round. In that moment, all sounds faded away. With unwillingness filling his very body, he gripped onto that ice-cold spear edge. His face was the color of death and his lips trembled.

This spear had not only pierced through Xuan Wuji's body but also his hopes and ambitions.

Lin Ming turned the spear, and battle spirit infused true essence shot into Xuan Wuji's body like mini flying knives.

In the next moment, Xuan Wuji's body burst apart into a mass of ruined meat.

Flesh and blood rained onto the forest ground beneath him. Like this, a fierce and ambition individual of his era had perished in these nameless mountain wilds.

It was finally over!

Lin Ming let out a long breath. In five years, Xuan Wuji had gone from an extreme master that he couldn't even look to, to a miserable man that had become a ghost under the edge of his spear.

As for that insufferably arrogant and all-powerful South Sea Demon Region that had once threatened Divine Phoenix Island, they were now nothing more than dust left behind in the passing of history.

Today marked the end of the war against the South Sea Demon Region. As for those remaining forces, they simply weren't worth mentioning at all.

“Xuan Wuji...”

Lin Ming silently remembered this name. Perhaps a hundred years from now this name might be remembered as only an unimportant figure. But to Lin Ming, the owner of this name was a formidable enemy that had engraved an unforgettable impression on his heart.

In order to defeat this enemy, Li Ming had suffered countless hardships.

As he thought about everything he had experienced these past years, Lin Ming's mind filled with a nostalgic sadness, as if all the

vicissitudes of life weighed down on him.

After he received his long spear, he then discovered that he was actually at the border of the Sky Fortune Kingdom in the Seven Profound Territory.

This proud and ambitious Xuan Wuji had actually died in the Sky Fortune Kingdom. This sort of coincidence seemed ironic, as if it were a part of the cycle of Samsara itself.

“There is no longer anyone in the Sky Fortune Kingdom that I am concerned about. In the dimensions of the Giant Leviathan, my parents, Yu’er, and Xingxuan should be worrying about me...”

As Lin Ming thought this out loud, he flew back to the South Sea.

Chapter 750 – Returning to the Dimension

News of Lin Ming hunting down Xuan Wuji rapidly spread throughout the entire South Horizon Region and Five Element Region as if it had wings. To the sects in these two regions, any unusual news was good news. After living in the terrifying shadow of the South Sea Demon Region for so many years, all of them wanted to see a glimmer of hope.

Before, Lin Ming had captured the Giant Leviathan, wounded Xuan Yuqie, and razed the South Sea Demon Region. All of this had been breathtaking, uplifting news, but this time...

Lin Ming, alone with his spear, had torn through the void with his strength and chased down Xuan Wuji for several hundred thousand miles. This news was simply too melodramatic; one couldn't help but suspect whether it was true.

And this news hadn't come from a large sect like Storm Valley or the Sunfire Sect. Rather, it originated from a very small transmission array transit point.

Four months ago, Lin Ming had been trapped in a deep sea trench 300,000 miles under the surface by Xuan Wuji, on the verge of being captured and killed at any moment. In such a short period of time, how could Lin Ming reverse the situation and be the one to hunt down Xuan Wuji instead?

Was this even possible?

Could this be a smoke screen that the South Sea Demon Region released, and the truth was that Lin Ming had already been killed by Xuan Wuji? Did Xuan Wuji release this fake intelligence in order to lure the other sects to jointly attack the South Sea Demon branch in the South Horizon Region, and then catch all of them together at once?

“Father, what do you think?” In Storm Valley, Zhan Yunjian asked his father this question.

In front of Zhan Yunjian was a blue-clothed middle-aged man. This middle-aged man pondered for a moment before saying, “This matter is too strange. It might be a trap that the South Sea Demon Region has laid down, don’t you think?”

Zhan Yunjian shook his head, saying, “It’s because it’s so bizarre that I think it’s true. If this news is really fake, then I can only say that Xuan Wuji’s mental state has regressed. Why would he harm his own prestige and fabricate such lies? Even if this news came out, would it have much effect as a trap?”

The blue-clothed middle-aged man nodded and said, “No matter what happened we’ll just have to wait and see. Paper can’t wrap fire; the truth will come to light sooner or later. Of course, I certainly hope that this news is true...”

Xuan Wuji had died in a desolate mountain range on the border of the Sky Fortune Kingdom. In the vast South Horizon Region, this was a tiny, miniscule piece of land not worth mentioning, so nobody even bothered to look there.

Then, Lin Ming had returned to the South Sea. Under the command of Demonshine, the Giant Leviathan also emerged from the deep sea.

The Giant Leviathan that was several dozen miles long, that had easily rolled over Yin Yang Profound Palace with its seemingly unstoppable power, now had countless scars all over its lengthy body.

Several hundred of the Giant Leviathan's tentacles had been torn off and its ears were shattered. The most serious wound was a pectoral fin with a mile-wide wound, nearly causing the entire fin to be ripped off.

To have such terrifying wounds and still manage to submerge 300,000 feet deep in a sea trench for over four months' time, only the Giant Leviathan with its amazing life force could have withstood that.

“These wounds will probably need at least half a year to recover.”

Lin Ming thought out loud. To such a massive being like the Giant Leviathan, it was simply impossible and also useless to feed it pills. He could only allow it to eat and rest in the deep sea, naturally restoring itself.

Fortunately, the South Sea was incomparably broad and there were innumerable deep sea vicious beasts; there were more than enough to satiate the Giant Leviathan's terrifying appetite.

If it could continuously hunt some high level deep sea beasts then this would greatly increase the speed at which the Giant Leviathan regenerated. Lin Ming really needed the Giant Leviathan now. With the Giant Leviathan, his loved ones had the best sanctuary possible and he had one less worry to concern himself with.

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At this time, within the dimension of the Giant Leviathan were several red-dressed beauties surrounding a red pug. This red pug was only a foot long and its tail was short and thick, like the end of a finger. It had short curly red hair and its small pair of doggy eyes were jet black and shaped like round beads.

This red-haired pug was Demonshine. Besides Lin Ming, no one had known that Demonshine existed. However, Demonshine had never been someone who could endure loneliness for too long. With Lin Ming having departed to the king level smelting trial for an unknown number of months, Demonshine's main soul had remained in the Giant Leviathan's dimension. In its boredom, the pug would often take a stroll around the grounds and soon familiarized himself with Lin Ming's friends and family.

“Little Red, didn't you say that Brother Lin would return soon? How come I haven't seen him yet?”

In front of the pug, there was an 18 or 19 year old girl asking Demonshine in a somewhat concerned tone. She wore a bright yellow dress and her appearance was delicate and beautiful. This

young woman was Qin Xingxuan.

“Little Red your mom!!”

Demonshine cursed back in an extremely depressed manner. Because he was so small and his body was covered in red fur, this damned little maid had suddenly started calling him Little Red after a while. This eminently ‘inappropriate’ name had quickly caught on and everyone began referring to him as such.

In response, the pug had made several ‘serious’ declarations that he should be called ‘Holy Lord Demonshine’, and also began hyping up and boasting about his ‘glorious past deeds’ when he was an all-powerful being in the past. However, everyone simply ignored him.

Demonshine’s nickname of ‘Little Red’ had caused tremendous damage to his own dignified image. However, the young women he yelled at couldn’t match up his current image with his past deeds. Instead, they thought that his angry appearance when he flew into a rage and his short red fur was standing on end was actually very funny, so more and more people began calling him ‘Little Red’.

“Little Red, please don’t lay around, all of us are growing nervous. When will Brother Lin come back? Where did he go off to? What has he been doing for these past four months?”

“I already repeated myself 10 thousand times, you must not call me Little Red, you must call me Holy Lord Demonshine!” Demonshine puffed out his chest, “When this Saint roamed

through the endless void, your grandfather's grandfather's grandfather's grandfather still hadn't been born!

“Forget it. Consider this done. This Saint is too lazy to bother lowering myself to the same level as you lesser mortals. That young boy Lin Ming should be returning very soon. As for these past four months, he's gone somewhere... hehe, but even if I try to tell you it's far too difficult for you lot to comprehend.”

“But if he comes back now... isn't Xuan Wuji still outside?”

“Hahaha!” Demonshine barked out three loud laughs, a sense of superiority immediately rising in his voice. “Xuan Wuji isn't even worth a fart. When this Saint was at his most peak and glorious state, small unimportant characters like Xuan Wuji were nothing but ants. This Saint wouldn't even need to look at him to pinch him to death with my claw. As for that brat Lin Ming, although the difference from his current state to the past me is like the heavens and earth, he should still be able to deal with that old man Xuan Wuji.”

“Demonshine, is what you said true?” Mu Qianyu suddenly stood up, her haunting phoenix eyes staring at Demonshine. Although Demonshine tended to boast, Mu Qianyu could feel that this pug was unusual indeed. Demonshine truly did have a powerful soul force and was able to control the Giant Leviathan. It was possible that what he said was true.

If Lin Ming really could defeat Xuan Wuji... no, Lin Ming didn't need to defeat him. As long as Lin Ming could contend with him then they could rebuild Divine Phoenix Island and the South Sea

war would also end!

“Of course! When has this Saint ever lied to anyone? If everything goes as expected, then that boy should return in another quarter hour or less.”

“Quarter hour... Little Red, are you telling the truth?” Qin Xingxuan’s eyes lit up. She had just spoken when the entire dimension trembled and she felt her heart suddenly soar.

Someone had come.

Was it Lin Ming?

“Hey, he’s faster than I thought!” Demonshine rubbed his doggy chin as he spoke.

At this time, a blue-clothed youth with jet-black hair appeared in the dimension, his face full of smiles.

“Lin Ming!”

“Brother Lin!”

Qin Xingxuan and Mu Qianyu were filled with endless surprise and joy. Xuan Wuji had been avidly eyeing the Giant Leviathan from the outside and they suffered a harrowing pressure the entire time. As for Lin Ming, they didn’t even know where he was. When

they asked Demonshine, he had only said that Lin Ming was training outside. They had nearly worried themselves to death.

Now that they saw Lin Ming, they were so happy that they began crying. If it were only Qin Xingxuan or Mu Qianyu alone then they would have already rushed into Lin Ming's embrace. However, now that both of them were here together, they were too embarrassed to do so.

“How are my parents?” Lin Ming asked.

“Uncle and Auntie are both doing very well. As for that little pigeon Xiaoge, she is also doing great!” Qin Xingxuan responded. For this past half year, Lin Fu and Lin Mu had no idea what was happening outside. Rather, they were living a carefree and happy life within. When Lin Ming had returned, he had also brought back a massive amount of miracle medicines that could strengthen and increase the life of mortals. Now, after taking these medicines Lin Fu and Lin Mu, who had worked hard jobs their entire lives, both looked several years younger, as if they were in the prime of their life. And as for Lin Ming's little sister Lin Xiaoge, although she was only a three or four year old child now, she had already started to cleanse and temper her body with all sorts of precious liquids. In the future, she certainly wouldn't be lacking in talent for martial arts.

“Junior-apprentice Brother Lin, what about Xuan Wuji?” Mu Qianyu asked. As she saw that Lin Ming was ultimately safe, she finally felt relieved in her heart. She also wanted to confirm whether or not Lin Ming now had the ability to fight with Xuan Wuji on even grounds. The destruction of Divine Phoenix Island

had always been a constant pain in her heart. For every day that she couldn't rebuild her home and sect she would never have peace of mind.

“Xuan Wuji... has already been slain by me.”

With just these few words, Mu Qianyu was stunned and even Qin Xingxuan was dumbfounded. Although Demonshine had said Lin Ming would just barely be able to defeat Xuan Wuji, they never imagined that Lin Ming would actually be able to kill him.

That man Xuan Wuji, who had started the South Sea war, who had exterminated Divine Phoenix Island, the Dire Space Sect, and Supreme Mystery Temple, and was worthy of being called the top master of the South Sea, had actually died?

“Brother Lin, is that really true?”

“Mm, he died at the border of Sky Fortune Kingdom. I've brought his weapon and spatial ring with me.” As Lin Ming spoke he took out a bronze ring from a pocket in his robes.

Mu Qianyu took the ring and swept through it with her perception, immediately freezing. Inside the ring was Xuan Wuji's weapon, his Elder Command Seal, and even the jade slip containing the 'Ancient Devil Arts'. Without a doubt, this was Xuan Wuji's spatial ring!

As Mu Qianyu held this ring in a daze, her eyes began blurring.

Xuan Wuji had died!

They had won the South Sea war!

Tears falling down her cheeks, Mu Qianyu couldn't help but hug Lin Ming as she sobbed. Her voice was completely choked with emotion as she said, "Thank you... thank you, Lin Ming..."

"Between us, there is no need for any thanks..." Lin Ming gently wiped away Mu Qianyu's tears. After 10 breath of time, Mu Qianyu finally recovered herself and happily said, "I must go and tell Master. They feared that you wouldn't return so they went into closed door seclusion to prepare for the final battle. They wouldn't expect that we can begin rebuilding Divine Phoenix Island in just a few more days!"

Although Divine Phoenix Island had been destroyed, the elites of the sect still lived and the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm which served as the foundation of the sect was still in perfect condition. With Lin Ming's current fame and power, rebuilding Divine Phoenix Island would be easy.

And at this time, a well-dressed middle-aged couple in their thirties came walking over. They were Lin Ming's parents.

"Father, Mother..." Lin Ming said with great happiness.

Seeing that his parents looked much younger and healthier, and

that Xingxuan and Yu'er were also safe, Lin Ming's heart was filled with satisfaction and vindication. He didn't regret in the least that he had ever chosen to step down the road of martial arts.

“Ming'er, you've finally come out of seclusion!” As Lin Mu saw Lin Ming, a cheerful and pleased expression crossed her face. She had no idea what events had occurred these past months. She only thought that Lin Ming had gone into closed door seclusion in one of the dimensions. Now that she saw her son finally coming out, she was naturally in a good mood.

But her smile didn't last much longer. As she saw Lin Ming standing side-by-side with Qin Xingxuan and Mu Qianyu, she actually began to be worried. Lin Ming's marriage had always been one of her life's greatest concerns.

Lin Ming was now 21 years old. It was past time for him to marry.

Chapter 751 – Collapse of the South Sea Demon Region

Since Xuan Wuji died, half a month had peacefully passed.

In this half month, many matters had occurred.

The news of Lin Ming chasing down Xuan Wuji over a space of several hundred thousand miles became increasingly intense. At first, not many people believed this. However, with the passage of time, all signs began to point to this news most likely being true. In particular, after 10 days, the Giant Leviathan once again appeared over the skies of Divine Phoenix Island. And in Divine Phoenix Island, the original disciples of that land had begun to reconstruct their sect on a massively grand scale!

After seeing Divine Phoenix Island build new grand temples and plazas and all sorts of complexes, the South Sea Demon Region actually didn't interfere. Instead, they retreated from the South Horizon Region and hid away.

And then, just three days later, another matter occurred that caused all the great sects to be completely bewildered.

That was... the South Sea Demon Region branch in the South Horizon Region had been disbanded!

The Demon Region disciples all went their separate ways. Some joined small sects, some concealed their identities, some went to

mortal kingdoms, and some went off on into the distant lands. Overnight, the last stronghold of the South Sea Demon Region had quietly disintegrated.

Now, the South Sea Demon Region that had survived in name only had completely crumbled away!

The South Sea Demon Region that had a legacy of over 4000 years had disappeared like this?

The sects of the South Horizon Region and Five Element Region couldn't believe this. The South Sea Demon Region had once been a Holy Land level sect. From the time when the Silent Demon Emperor City had been destroyed 3000 years ago until now, that mysterious and powerful South Sea Demon Region that had dominated the South Sea had now vanished. It was like everything they knew had been an illusion.

It was no different from waking up from a dream.

After several days, masters of the Five Element Region finally reached Divine Phoenix Island. There, they obtained news that left them shellshocked.

“Xuan Wuji is dead; Lin Ming killed him.”

In front of important figures from the Five Element Region, Mu Bingyun recited this to them in a very calm tone.

“What did you just say!?”

The Sunfire Sect Sovereign stood up on the spot, his entire mind in utter chaos. For a long time he didn't respond to Mu Bingyun's shocking words.

“Xuan Wuji has died, therefore the South Sea war has ended.” Mu Bingyun repeated without expression. Although her voice was calm and light, the truth was that her heart was not composed at all. She too was incomparably flabbergasted. Even though she knew that Lin Ming had a heaven-defying talent, she still didn't dare to believe that it was real.

“Lin Ming... killed Xuan Wuji? Heavens! He is only 21 years old!”

The rumors that had reached deafening proportions said that Lin Ming had chased down Xuan Wuji over a distance of several hundred thousand miles. Many people couldn't believe this to begin with, and now Mu Bingyun had spoken even more outrageous news: Xuan Wuji had actually been killed by Lin Ming!

Since this was confirmed by Mu Bingyun, and in addition to everything that had occurred recently, this was most likely true!

A 21 year old Revolving Core youth had killed a fourth stage Life Destruction master! Then how monstrous would he be once he reached Life Destruction? Or the Divine Sea!?

The many people present couldn't help but wonder this

terrifying question.

Looking through the entire Sky Spill Continent's history, and setting aside that blank period from 100,000 thousand years ago and before, a time had never been recorded when a late Revolving Core youth had killed a fourth-stage Life Destruction martial artist!

When Emperor Shakya had comprehended seven kinds of martial intents and fused them all together underneath a Bodhi Tree, his martial path had broken through the void, and he ascended into the heavens. Since then, he had been known as the Sky Spill Continent's number one genius. But even when Emperor Shakya was at Lin Ming's age, he absolutely couldn't achieve such a degree of strength.

"Xuan Wuji was the top master of the South Sea. Since Lin Ming killed Xuan Wuji, he is now the top master of the South Sea instead!"

"The Great Zen Temple's presiding abbot and the South Sea's Nanyun Wang were weaker than Xuan Wuji. Now, Lin Ming's status is even higher than theirs! Even if you consider the formidable powers backing them, Lin Ming can still be treated equal to a holy abbot from the Great Zen Temple!"

The entire Great Zen Temple had a total of three great abbots. The Great Zen Temple had a very deep and formidable strength, and they had dominated the entire Great Zen Region for thousands of years now. They were a fifth-grade sect truly worthy of that reputation. Whether it was power or their inheritance, they were

stronger than the South Sea Demon Region in all aspects.

No matter which abbot it was from the Great Zen Temple, they were an existence that the Sovereigns of the Five Element Region's seven sects all had to respectfully bow to. But now, Lin Ming's status had actually far surpassed the three great abbots'!

At this time, let alone calling Lin Ming a 'boy', they didn't even have the qualifications or gall to address Lin Ming by his full name.

"To be on the same footing with an abbot from the Great Zen Temple... being the top master of the South Sea probably doesn't mean much to Lin Ming. In the future, he will definitely become the number one powerhouse of the entire Sky Spill Continent!"

As several Elders were discussing this, at a corner of the meeting table, Zhan Yunjian opened his mouth several times, wanting to speak, but was unable to force out any words due to the rumbling emotions in his heart. He wasn't able to calm himself down. Spoken words could no longer describe the gap between him and Lin Ming.

"Is there anything else? If there is no other matter to discuss then I shall not accompany you. Since Divine Phoenix Island is being rebuilt right now, I have many matters to attend to."

Mu Bingyun's words seemed to awaken everyone from their dazed state. In truth, everyone wanted to meet Lin Ming and pay their respects, in particular the Sunfire Princess, Zhan Yunjian, Bai Aoxuan, and several other young disciples that had known of Lin

Ming from long ago. However, no one dared to open their mouth and ask such a brazen question that could be considered as pestering.

Like this, the envoys from the Five Element Region left the South Horizon Region. As they left, news of Lin Ming killing Xuan Wuji spread like a tide!

The remaining forces of the Dire Space Sect, Supreme Mystery Temple, and all the third-grade and second-grade sects of the South Horizon Region were discussing this shocking news with vivid excitement.

Especially the disciples of the Seven Profound Valleys; they had been stirred into a frenzy. As long as Lin Ming didn't perish in the future, he would eventually reach the Divine Sea realm and become a true Emperor level powerhouse! He would be considered a legendary existence within the Sky Spill Continent of which there was only just more than a hundred!

Moreover, Lin Ming would not be some ordinary Emperor level powerhouse. In the future, they could brag to their descendants that their grandfather had once been in the same sect as an Emperor level powerhouse.

Lin Ming had suddenly become the idol, goal, and dream of countless young disciples everywhere, and the object of admiration and love of innumerable young girls. Nearly all of them had been converted to Linmaniacs. Lin Ming had become the top master of the South Sea, but these young disciples couldn't even reach the Xiantian realm. Even though they knew perfectly well that they

could never reach the same heights as Lin Ming, all of them struggled their hardest to reduce the gap between them as much as possible, lest they regret it in the future.

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Ten days later, in the jungles of the Southern Wilderness, within a small tribe just shy of 100,000 people...

“It’s wonderful, wonderful! There are truly living gods!”

A middle-aged man wearing the strange clothes of the Southern Wilderness was holding a crying baby as he knelt on the floor and began kowtowing. And, in front of this middle-aged man was a young black-clothed sorceress wearing a black veil. She had wide and charming eyes, curved like a crescent moon. Although her face was blocked by black gauze, one could still make out slender eyebrows that tapered out; she was obviously a peerless beauty.

The sorceress was clearing up some medical tools. As she faintly glanced at the middle-aged man kowtowing before her, she expressionlessly said, “I will give you some medicine. Mix it with lukewarm water and divide it into seven portions and serve it for seven days.”

With that, the sorceress waved her hands. With a sudden cool breeze, the middle-aged man was gently blown out of her tent.

“Gods, it is the gods!” The middle-aged man cried out in

happiness, “The Sorcerer has appeared! He has sent a young witch to save us!”

The middle-aged man hugged the baby tightly in his arms, walking back towards his home even as he knelt down every few steps to kowtow towards the sorceress’ tent.

But in the tent, the sorceress remained silent, displaying no emotion at all.

And at this moment, an old voice suddenly sounded from outside the tent. “Do you plan on continuing like this? Is there any meaning in saving the lives of a few mortals?”

The sorceress calmly lifted her veil, revealing a beautiful face. She was the South Sea Demon Region’s Western Faction Sovereign, Xuan Yuqie.

Xuan Yuqie gently shook her head, “There is no meaning.”

“Then why are you still wasting your time here?”

Xuan Yuqie shook her head once again, “From the moment I was born, all that I was, everything I did, all of that was for the Xuan Clan and the South Sea Demon Region. Now that the South Sea Demon Region is exterminated, the Xuan Clan has also dissolved. What meaning was there in anything I ever did?”

As Xuan Yuqie retorted, the old man was dumbfounded. Indeed,

there had been no meaning at all.

Xuan Yuqie faintly sighed, saying, “Now that Xuan Wuji has died, from the original 18 Elders of the South Sea Demon Region, all that is left over is you and me. As for those sects that we destroyed, all of them wish for us to die. Perhaps in less than 10 days, the remnants of the Dire Space Sect and Supreme Mystery Temple will gather their remaining forces to chase down the last of the South Sea Demon Region disciples. That includes you, and that includes me.

“In a thousand years of life, spring and fall have all become a dream. In this vast and endless universe, is there any significance to anything we do? Since the world will not accommodate me, then I shall walk alone, seeking only harmony and peace in my heart, creating my own pure lands of bliss.”

As Xuan Yuqie spoke to here, she stood up and let her veil fall back down. In this South Sea catastrophe, the South Sea Demon Region had been destroyed but she had lived. Now, her entire mentality towards life had changed.

“You want to find peace in your heart, creating your own pure lands? Do you think the mortals you save in the second half of your life are enough to atone for the countless sins you committed in the first half? Forget it; everyone has their own choices to make. Anything I say will no longer matter. I plan on searching for some remote mountain and closing up in cultivation. Although I know it is impossible for me to reach the Divine Sea, I still hope that I can cross several more stages of Life Destruction. If I die during my attempts then I can only say that my fate has reached its end.

When I was young I already resolved in my heart that I would explore the road of martial arts until I reached its end. If I die in the throes of crossing Life Destruction then that is still a worthy death for my final act!”

“Xuan Yuqie, after we bid our farewells today, our fated paths will likely never cross again. I wish you good luck!” As the old man spoke he floated away, leaving a desolate tent flapping in the wind.

Xuan Yuqie didn’t turn around. She only quietly said, “Farewell and goodbye. I wish you good luck.”

.....

Time marched on. In the blink of an eye, another two months passed. The main buildings of Divine Phoenix Island had been rebuilt already and many of the great training arrays were also in the process of repair. A massive number of disciples had returned to live on the island.

But at this time, Lin Ming was faced with a problem that he had no choice but to face.

That was... marriage.

For an entire two months, Lin Mu had constantly badgered and spoken about this issue. Although she wasn’t too clear just what Lin Ming’s boundary and attainments were, she did understand one thing, and that was that Lin Ming was destined to soar into

higher realms, leaving everyone else further and further behind.

It would be increasingly rare for her to see Lin Ming. And when Lin Ming left, it might not even be strange for him to disappear for 10 years at a time. In this case, how could Lin Mu not desire a grandchild?

This was a reasonable argument. In fact, because Lin Ming had stepped onto the road of martial arts and doomed himself to constant loneliness, he felt extremely guilty towards his parents. Now facing the justified request of his mother, he naturally couldn't reject her.

Moreover, over the years, it wasn't like Lin Ming was a blockhead with no emotions or urges. He too had very sincere feelings of genuine affection. He also hoped for this.

Chapter 752 – Lin Ming’s Wedding, the Divine Kingdom Prince

South Horizon Region, Scarlet Peak City –

Scarlet Peak City was a relatively large city in the South Horizon Region. This was because it was where the headquarters of a top third-grade sect were located.

Just a few years ago, because of the invasion of the South Sea Demon Region, Scarlet Peak City had gone into decline with many of the martial artists relocating elsewhere. However, with the death of Xuan Wuji, Scarlet Peak City was once again booming with the hustle and bustle of vibrant crowds.

At this time, in a high class restaurant in Scarlet Peak City, there were several martial artists sitting together and talking. “I heard that the Young Emperor of Divine Phoenix Island will have his great marriage in another month! The entire Divine Phoenix Island is now lively with countless guests from all around. Many important characters of the South Horizon Region and Five Element Region will be attending. Even the Sovereign of an ordinary third-grade sect doesn’t have the qualifications to go into the main hall, they can only enter the side halls!”

“Whew, to think even a third-grade sect Sovereign can only go to a side hall.” A martial artist commented with some emotion as he drank. All of them came from the third-grade Scarlet Peak Sect. It was rare for them to even see a Sovereign level character. To them, that was already a very high existence.

“Who did you say was getting married just now?” As the several martial artists spoke, a lazy voice suddenly drawled out.

The several people followed the voice and saw that in a corner of the restaurant, there was a young man wearing a yellow Kirin robe, a purple gold crown on his head. The young man was fiddling with a wine glass, and beside him were three beautiful woman accompanying him, one of them a young nun.

As the group saw this, the reaction of a common man would have been to become jealous and upset, cursing at this man in his heart that he would be such a lucky pig.

And these martial artists were no exception. The leading Scarlet Peak Sect disciple couldn't tolerate this any further and shouted out, “Divine Phoenix Island's Young Emperor Lin Ming's wedding! It will happen in just a month!”

After Lin Ming killed Xuan Wuji he had become the shining star of the South Horizon Region. No one dared to call Lin Ming by his full name any longer.

From the start, they had referred to Lin Ming as the Holy Son of Divine Phoenix Island, Great Hero Lin, and so forth. Later, the name of Young Emperor Lin Ming had randomly caught on and this name had spread out.

In their opinion, Lin Ming would inevitably become a Peerless Emperor in the future. Referring to him as Young Emperor now

was also an appropriate matter.

“I see, so it really is him.” The Kirin-robed youth was the Divine Kingdom Prince, Li Yifeng. When he had arrived at the Great Zen Region, he had also heard of Lin Ming’s name. Now, accompanied by his bevy of beauties, he leisurely made his way to the South Horizon Region where he learned of Lin Ming’s great wedding.

“Young Emperor? This Lin Ming actually dares to refer to himself as Young Emperor?” A young maid dressed up as a beautiful noble girl didn’t take this very well. “Not even my young master dares to take this sort of name. Yet this Lin Ming only comes from a small fourth-grade sect and he dares to call himself Young Emperor? That is far too arrogant!”

“Arrogant?” The Scarlet Peak Sect disciple stared with wide eyes, as if he had heard wrong. What sort of small fourth-grade sect? It was like these people looked down on all fourth-grade sects in general. “Humph, what would you know? Young Emperor is not a title that Lin Ming calls himself, but is what all the martial artists of the South Horizon Region have recognized him as. Young Emperor Lin is so young and yet he managed to defeat Xuan Wuji. His talent far surpasses anyone from the present or from ancient times. It is inevitable that he will become a Peerless Emperor, so what is so wrong with calling him Young Emperor now?”

The young maid curled her lips, apparently not convinced, “Who cares about who you South Horizon Region martial artists have recognized? Over 90% of the Emperor level powerhouses are concentrated in the four Divine Kingdoms in the center of the mainland. Your South Horizon Region is only a very ordinary

region in the Sky Spill Continent. In these past several thousand years has an Emperor level powerhouse ever been born from here?”

The young maid’s question left the Scarlet Peak Sect disciples speechless. It was indeed true that there hadn’t been an Emperor level powerhouse born from the South Horizon Region in a very long time. In fact, even the Netherworld Great Emperor from 3000 years ago was not someone from the South Horizon Region but had come from somewhere else instead. This was not because the South Horizon Region was inadequate, but because it was hard to find a single Emperor level powerhouse in the majority of the Sky Spill Continent’s ordinary regions. Even the Great Zen Region was in a similar state.

There were many Emperor level talents but very few Emperor level powerhouses. This was because an extraordinary young elite only had to come across a lucky chance and, coupled with their own astonishing talent, this was enough for them to join the ranks of Emperor level talents. But after that, there was still an extremely long road to cover before becoming a Peerless Emperor. It was possible that one wouldn’t cross any more great lucky chances on this road, and these talents would easily exhaust their potential, finally stopping in Life Destruction.

Furthermore, many geniuses perished along the way. To cross the stages of Life Destruction was to risk your life every time. For a human to reach the Divine Sea, they would have to overcome countless difficulties and make innumerable gambles with their lives.

This was still the South Horizon Region after all. After hearing the young maid's words, many martial artists refused to listen further. They all stood up together and said, "You dare to bully my South Horizon Region?"

For a time, the young maid had become the target of everyone.

As Li Yifeng saw this, he laughed out loud and said, "Everyone, please do not take offense. This young maid is just a silly girl and was speaking some nonsense just now. Please don't be too agitated, hm?"

As Li Yifeng spoke in a conciliatory tone, the standing martial artists didn't want to cause a stir because of a little girl and they immediately sat back down.

The young maid had a very morose expression. She said with a true essence sound transmission, "Young Master, why do you apologize to these stupid fellows. You can beat them all up with just a finger!"

One of Li Yifeng's eyebrow curved up, "What meaning is there in bullying these common mortals? Speaking of this Lin Ming's big wedding, it should be rather interesting. Let's go and have some fun."

.....

One month later, Divine Phoenix Island –

After Xuan Wuji died, Divine Phoenix Island finished rebuilding in just three months. And then, Lin Ming's wedding soon followed. Nearly all the Life Destruction level powerhouses from the southern point of the Sky Spill Continent had received invitations to Divine Phoenix Island.

This great wedding was singlehandedly managed by Mu Yuhuang. The marriage of a Divine Phoenix Island Saintess was a major event to begin with. And added with the fact that Lin Ming was the top master of the South Sea, it had become even more extravagant.

To be the top master of the South Sea at such a young age, his future prospects were endless.

Such a grand event naturally needed to be handled well and with the utmost care.

For several days, the skies above the entire Divine Phoenix Island were covered by multi-hued rays of light like a kaleidoscope of colors. Everywhere one looked, there were shimmering clouds of iridescent light. Occasionally, a flaming Vermilion Bird or frost Blue Luan would fly back and forth between the clouds, as if this island were a true immortal paradise!

On the main island, all sorts of immortal grasses and trees bloomed at the same time under the driving force of an array formation. For a time, the entire Divine Phoenix Island was filled with the vibrantly aromatic and sensual sense of the wild, fragrant

scents floating in all directions. Among the scintillating clouds, grandiose palaces and temples of jade thrust into the heavens as if it were a scene from a dream.

With Lin Ming's fame in the South Sea, nearly every Life Destruction level martial artist invited came. Below Life Destruction, countless Revolving Core martial artists had already arrived early at Divine Phoenix Island. As for the third-grade sects and above, even if their Sovereign didn't come, there would at least be a Vice Sovereign present.

And below that, there were even many unremarkable Xiantian martial artists that arrived; there were even some martial artists that weren't in a sect. These people didn't have an invitation, but had come anyway to experience such a grand celebration in the South Horizon Region that could only be seen once every several thousand years.

And several thousand years wasn't an exaggeration. With Lin Ming's current limelight, only the Netherworld Great Emperor of 3000 years past could compete with him in fame. In this situation, in just three short days, nearly 10,000 martial artists had arrived at Divine Phoenix Island and more were coming every minute.

For those martial artist that weren't invited, Divine Phoenix Island didn't turn anyone away. In order to hold a massive celebration for Lin Ming, Mu Yuhuang had several reception halls built in the surrounding miles around where the ceremony would take place. For this great wedding ceremony, Divine Phoenix Island had spared absolutely no effort.

“Dire Space Sect Elder, Lian Chihue!”

“Storm Valley Vice Valley Master, Zhan Yuntian!”

“Sunfire Sect direct disciple, Huo Ruyan!”

“Nanyun Wang!”

The master of ceremonies announced the names of arriving guests in order. As Nanyun Wang’s name was announced, Lin Ming’s mind stirred. He looked around to see a middle-aged man in a nine-clawed dragon robe and wearing a purple gold jade belt. He walked forwards, laughing, with a beauty on each of his arms.

When Nanyun Wang was entering the Demon God Imperial Palace, he also had a similar appearance where he was surrounded by beautiful women. Nanyun Wang was a martial artist who followed the demonic path to begin with. It was rumored he had a harem of 3000 beauties, all of them as pretty and exquisite as flowers with a high martial talent. If any one of these women were placed in a small country then they would definitely be a proud daughter of heaven in their lands.

“Nanyun Wang!”

Lin Ming cupped his fists together in greeting.

“Haha, Lin Ming, if I didn’t see you with my own eyes then I still wouldn’t be able to believe that it’s been less than three years since

we ventured into the Demon God Imperial Palace. Originally, I thought you were just a common junior, but in the blink of an eye you've turned around and actually became the top master of the South Sea! That is truly incredible!"

Now that things had come to this, Nanyun Wang naturally wouldn't bother with the matter where he was played around with by Lin Ming in the Demon God Imperial Palace. In just three years, Lin Ming's cultivation had risen by two large boundaries. This sort of matter could be said to be unprecedented ever since ancient times.

As all of these high level characters arrived, all of them also brought along wedding gifts. There were all sorts of top-grade true essence stones, heavenly materials, treasures, and many other valuables.

Mu Yuhuang met every guest one at a time. Seeing Divine Phoenix Island enjoying such a flourishing state, her heart was filled with emotion.

"Great Zen Temple's third abbot, Grandmaster Konghe!"

After Nanyun Wang, another esteemed guest arrived. Great Zen Temple had a total of three abbots; Abbot Whitebrow was only one of them. For Lin Ming's grand wedding, Abbot Whitebrow didn't come but Abbot Konghe did. He was similarly at the third stage of Life Destruction.

"Grandmaster Konghe."

Towards this sort of venerable monk, Lin Ming politely bowed. Thinking about his trip into the Demon God Imperial Palace, he still had to thank Abbot Whitebrow for protecting Divine Phoenix Island. Otherwise, it would have been impossible to depend on Mu Fengxian alone to contend with the South Sea Demon Region.

“Benefactor Lin is so young yet has reached the late Revolving Core realm. Moreover, your strength is above even a fourth stage Life Destruction master’s. In the future, your accomplishments will be immeasurable.” Grandmaster Konghe held his hands together and recited some Buddhist blessings.

“Grandmaster’s praise is too kind. Please come this way, I’ve had a set of vegetarian dishes especially prepared for Grandmaster and other eminent monks.”

“Supreme Mystery Temple Temple Master, Guru Guang Shang!”

“Golden Bell Mountain Sovereign, Golden Sword Sage!”

“Divine Kingdom Prince... uh... Li Yifeng!”

At the wedding banquet, the master of ceremonies announced visiting guests based on the identity they wrote down. At this time, there shouldn’t be someone bored enough to pretend to be someone else. When the master of ceremonies read the title of Divine Kingdom Prince, he almost stumbled over his words thinking that he had read it wrong. Was this Divine Kingdom Prince real or fake?

Everyone's eyes turned as the master of ceremonies introduced this character. They only saw that at the entrance of the main hall, there was a young man in a purple robe walking in, playing with a folding fan as a young maid and a young nun followed on both sides of him.

Divine Kingdom Prince? Of the four Divine Kingdoms?

Lin Ming narrowed his eyes. This Li Yifeng's cultivation should be at the late Revolving Core realm – the same as him. From his appearance, he should be around 30 years old, just a bit older than Duanmu Qun.

The four great Divine Kingdoms had Crown Princes and Princes. The rank of Prince was somewhat lower than Crown Prince, but they were still dragons amongst humans. If one didn't have talent then it was simply impossible for them to enjoy the title of Prince.

Chapter 753 – The Mysterious Girl

“He is a Divine Kingdom Prince?”

The eyes of nearly all martial artists present locked onto Li Yifeng. The four Divine Kingdoms were the highest level of existing powers within the Sky Spill Continent. Compared to the four Divine Kingdoms, other regions were like small mountain villages.

For instance, take the Great Zen Region. Within the Great Zen Region, a high level Life Destruction martial artist would be the top master. But in the four Divine Kingdoms, a Divine Sea Supreme Elder was a top master; high level Life Destruction martial artists were relatively common.

Compared to the other regions, the four Divine Kingdoms were an entire boundary stronger.

Originally, when rumors spread that a Crown Prince from the Divine Kingdoms had come to the South Horizon Region, Yin Yang Profound Palace’s Xing Can had immediately gone out to visit him with her son. From this, one could see the difference in status.

Thus, even though this Li Yifeng was not a Divine Kingdom Crown Prince and only a Prince, that was already amazing enough.

Lin Ming couldn’t determine Li Yifeng’s exact strength but he could approximate it. His cultivation was at the peak of the Late Revolving Core period and he was already making great progress

towards Life Destruction. His cultivation was around half a minor boundary higher than Lin Ming's and his foundation was also extremely solid; he should have the power to contend with a Life Destruction Master. As for what the limit of his strength was, Lin Ming couldn't say.

For such a character to call himself a Divine Kingdom Prince, Lin Ming didn't suspect this at all.

Of course, after experiencing the Realm of the Gods' Ancient Phoenix Clan, Lin Ming didn't feel anything particularly special about this Divine Kingdom Prince at all. As Li Yifeng approached, he cupped his fists together in greetings and said, "I didn't think that there would be a Prince from one of the four Divine Kingdoms attending my wedding. It is truly a great honor."

"Haha, I just happened to be playing around in the South Horizon Region and I heard that Brother Lin here already became the top master of the South Sea at such a young age, so I became a bit curious. In my life, I love to make friends with the heroes of the world the most. I came without invitation, so if there's any way in which I was disrespectful I humbly request Brother Lin to forgive me."

"Brother Li is too polite. Since a Divine Kingdom Prince comes to visit, please make yourself welcome in my home."

Lin Ming and Li Yifeng paid compliments to each other. But at Li Yifeng's side, the young maid actually pouted, quietly probing Lin Ming's Revolving Core in his dantian.

Rashly investigating others' dantian was an extremely rude form of behavior. Lin Ming's composure didn't change; he only shielded himself from her perception as he continued to greet his guests.

But because that young girl couldn't find out much, she still didn't give up and decided to investigate Lin Ming's meridians. Finally, Lin Ming turned a tad unhappy. He silently released the Asura force field so that it only bloomed within him without leaking outside in the least. Thus, no one could sense a difference in Lin Ming's aura.

And at this time, the young maid who was probing Lin Ming's body suddenly shook. Her face turned white as she took several steps back, the blood tumbling in her body.

"Qing'er, you've been up to nonsense again and now you've suffered a loss. I already said that Lin Ming was able to kill Xuan Wuji at such a young age and become the top master of the South Sea, so he must be accomplished. How could you possibly be his match? If I'm not wrong, what he did just now was use a kind of force field. This is an extremely rare ability which even I don't have."

Li Yifeng was secretly surprised. This move that Lin Ming so casually exposed was actually such a unique ability.

The young maid called Qing'er curled her lips, not too convinced. "What's so special about a force field? Although Young Master doesn't have a force field, you've already reached an

extraordinarily high understanding in Wind Laws. That is more powerful than any force field. Even his highness the Crown Prince is inferior to you in the aspect of Laws!

“Then again, he is only the top master of the South Sea. If Young Master participated in the South Horizon Region then you too could have obtained that title. As for killing Xuan Wuji, I’ve already investigated that matter. There was simply no one who saw that fight. Who knew if Lin Ming killed Xuan Wuji himself or whether or not he had someone come help him, or perhaps he might have used some dastardly trap on Xuan Wuji. Also, who knows whether Xuan Wuji is as powerful as the rumors say? I’m just not convinced that this martial artist from such a tiny South Horizon Region actually dares to call himself Young Emperor. Even Young Master doesn’t dare to call himself that. In fact, Young Master should have a match with this Lin Ming to show him just how fierce our four Divine Kingdoms actually are!”

Li Yifeng’s eyes widened and he testily said, “Dumb little girl, stop pulling nonsense out of your ass. It should be right that Xuan Wuji was a fourth stage Life Destruction powerhouse. And even if he was the weakest of fourth stage Life Destruction martial artists, that still isn’t a character I can deal with. I don’t know whether Lin Ming killed Xuan Wuji by himself or not, but what I do know is that Lin Ming is absolutely strong. If I fight him and win, others will not commend me for doing so. And if I lose – a result which seems far more likely to happen – then I’ll have disgraced myself. Remember, today we came to eat for free. We’re here to make friends, not to fight!”

Lin Ming’s confrontation with Qing’er was very subtle, but what kind of characters were the martial artists present? There were

naturally many people that noticed what happened.

In a corner of the main hall, Lan Xin was drinking a cup of scented tea. She laughed and said, “It seems that Divine Kingdom Prince’s maid isn’t too convinced by Lin Ming!”

Sitting near Lan Xin, Duanmu Qun said, “That probably isn’t a maid. She’s so young but she’s already at the Revolving Core realm. Also, her foundation isn’t too shabby either. She’s probably the royal concubine of that Divine Kingdom Prince and is only dressed up to look like a maid.

“What do you think of that Divine Kingdom Prince?” Lan Xin thoughtlessly asked.

“He seems like a cynical playboy, but in fact his will is strong, his foundation is solid, and his strength is extraordinary. If our cultivations were the same then I could fight with him, but since his cultivation is higher than mine, there isn’t any way for me to do so.”

Cultivation was one of the most important factors of strength. Duanmu Qun could jump ranks to fight, but that was only compared to other more ordinary geniuses. If he compared himself to someone with his own level of talent, then half a small boundary of difference in cultivation was a nearly insurmountable gap.

After Divine Kingdom Prince Li Yifeng appeared, more and more great figures made their appearance. But compared to Li Yifeng, all

of them had been eclipsed by him.

As the grand ceremony was about to begin, a row of unusual guests caught Lin Ming's attention; they were actually people from the deep sea Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan.

Several months ago, in order for the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan to obtain the Giant Leviathan's marrow, they had joined forces with Xuan Wuji to chase down the beast, finally forcing it 300,000 miles under the sea into a trench.

Afterwards, Lin Ming escaped in the darkness and made a visit to the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan, killing many people in a massive slaughter. But, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch still couldn't give up on the Giant Leviathan's marrow and also decided to help Xuan Wuji in laying down the great illusionary array formation.

Lin Ming had returned at this point. Because he had chased Xuan Wuji over hundreds of thousands of miles, Lin Ming simply didn't bother caring about the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch. Like this, he had escaped this fatal catastrophe.

"What are you here for?" Lin Ming's voice was grim, his expression cold.

"Lin... Young Emperor Lin, I came this time to respectfully congratulate Young Emperor Lin on your wonderful marriage and also to bring a congratulatory wedding gift. If there was any place in which I caused offense before, I ask Young Emperor Lin to be

merciful and broad-minded.” The one who headed this group was exactly the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch of before. He truly feared Lin Ming from the depths of his soul now. After all, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan still had to survive in the South Sea. Since they had offended Lin Ming, they would likely be doomed to extinction in the future.

Although he feared that Lin Ming would deal with him here, he had no choice but to come and personally apologize. He hoped that in front of so many honored guests and on such a joyous occasion, Lin Ming wouldn't start a scene.

“Wedding gift?” One of Lin Ming's eyebrows curved up as he maintained his icy attitude.

“Mm... yes, it's this.”

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Patriarch clenched his teeth, seeming to make a gesture of great determination as he swiped his spatial ring and brought out a crimson jade box. As this jade box appeared, an incomparably rich fire origin energy suddenly emanated outwards.

Lin Ming was surprised, but Mu Yuhuang's eyes began to shine with a happy light. This was a spirit vein source! And a fire-attribute one at that!

A spirit vein was the fundamental basis for the existence of a sect.

Only when a sect had their own spirit vein could they ensure that

there would be a rich heaven and earth origin energy in their territory and then attract martial artists to join their sect. When Divine Phoenix Island was destroyed, Mu Yuhuang had led the remaining disciples to live under the yoke of Yin Yang Profound Palace, and a great reason for this was because of Yin Yang Profound Palace's spirit veins.

Generally speaking, the higher grade a sect was, the higher grade their spirit veins would be.

Divine Phoenix Island was only a fourth-grade sect and the grade of its spirit veins had been just enough for them. But with Lin Ming becoming increasingly strong, Divine Phoenix Island would inevitably rise in strength too.

At that time, a low grade spirit vein would become a hindrance in the development of the sect.

To solve this problem, they could either relocate the sect or find a spirit vein that could be transplanted, that is, to find the so-called spirit vein source.

There weren't many spirit veins in the Sky Spill Continent to begin with, and there were even fewer spirit veins that could be transplanted. This sort of treasure could not be purchased with money. Moreover, to find one with a matching attribute was far more difficult!

Mu Yuhuang had been worrying about this matter but she never expected that the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch would send

out a gift of a spirit vein source, and one that wasn't of a low-grade either!

This was truly a generous gift!

“Hehehe! Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch is far too kind. This old woman must be disrespectful, it is truly a shame, ah!” Mu Yuhuang smiled so brightly that even her dimples showed. Although she spoke politely, she had no qualms at all about receiving this gift. With a quick swipe of her right hand, the jade box of the spirit vein source was placed into her spatial ring.

She naturally knew the reason that the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan was willing to pay such a hemorrhaging price. In the end, it all came down to Lin Ming being far too strong.

Seeing Mu Yuhuang take in this spirit vein source, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch felt his heart ache as if it were dripping blood. This sort of treasure was also incomparably precious to their Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan.

The Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan focused on water-attribute cultivation methods, thus fire-attribute spirit veins were useless to them to begin with. However, a fire-attribute spirit vein source could be exchanged for a similar water-attribute one. It was only because spirit vein sources were so rare that they hadn't exchanged it in such a long time. Now, he had to politely bow and humble himself while giving this spirit vein source to Divine Phoenix Island. How could he possibly be happy with this?

But there was no other choice. Compared to a spirit vein source, the survival of their clan was far more important.

Since the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan was willing to offer such a generous gift, Lin Ming didn't bother to pursue past matters on such a joyous occasion. In truth, this spirit vein source really was too important to Divine Phoenix Island; it was something that could only be found through a stroke of fate.

At this time, the auspicious moment had arrived. The wedding was about to begin.

And at this time, with another announcement from the master of ceremonies, several strangely-clothed middle-aged people appeared in the main hall. These three all had a thick demonic energy around them; they were clearly demonic path martial artists.

Lin Ming didn't recognize any of these three. But, at the side of demonic path martial artist in front, there was a young girl who looked like his concubine. As Lin Ming looked at her, he felt his heart go cold, his eyes unable to leave her.

How could it... be?

Chapter 754 – Jade of the Goddess

The young woman that the demonic path martial artist brought along only seemed to be just under 20. She had a slender and beautiful figure and a pair of still eyes with a strange dark gray light in her pupils. Her face was pleasant to look at and there was a mysterious tattoo mark on her cheek.

The young woman's appearance and the strange mark on her face were not the reason that Lin Ming had lost his sense of decorum. Rather, there was an azure-colored jade pendant hanging over her chest. Engraved at the center of this jade pendant was a mystical design, as if it were a bird-like totem.

This jade pendant exuded an extremely pure energy; one could see at first glance that it wasn't an ordinary object. However, it wasn't an offensive-type treasure either. In fact, it was difficult to judge just what sort of function this jade pendant had.

“This jade pendant...”

Lin Ming sucked in a breath of cold air. When he had been in the 1000 mile forbidden zone in the Eternal Demon Abyss, Lin Ming had rushed his way into the lair of a bunch of corpse devils. It turned out that the lair was actually the ancient grave of a goddess that had slept there untouched and unblemished for 100,000 years or even longer. Originally, Lin Ming hadn't wanted to recklessly disturb the remains of such a figure, but as he covered the sarcophagus and was leaving, he heard the faint call of a woman's voice summoning him back.

Lin Ming had turned around and opened the sarcophagus again. Then, he had discovered a jade pendant and a necklace. As he was exploring the goddess' body, to his amazement he discovered that the goddess still had a heartbeat. From there, Lin Ming had sensed the heart of a Great Emperor from within her that had been beating for all these tens of thousands of years!

Lin Ming had touched the jade pendant of the goddess. It was nearly exactly the same as the jade pendant that this gray-pupil woman was wearing in front of him, whether it was the design or the energy that it emitted.

If it wasn't for the fact that Lin Ming had just now confirmed that the goddess' jade pendant from the grave was still in his spatial ring, he would have thought they were the exact same.

Lin Ming's improper actions had fallen into the eyes of that demonic path martial artist. That martial artist frowned, obviously unhappy. His possessive nature was very strong and he naturally didn't want others to be staring at his concubine like this.

“Young Hero Lin, could it be that you've met my concubine in the past before!?”

The demonic path martial artist's unhappy inquiry broke through Lin Ming's thoughts. Lin Ming thought little of it and looked up at these three unexpected guests.

Of these three demonic path martial artists, all of them had Life

Destruction cultivations. Two of them were at the third stage of Life Destruction and one of them was at the second stage of Life Destruction. What Lin Ming was surprised by was that martial artist in the lead was the one with a second stage Life Destruction cultivation. He also seemed to be the youngest, looking just over 30 years of age. As for the two third stage Life Destruction martial artists, they seemed to be following the orders of that second stage Life Destruction man.

These weren't people who came from near the South Horizon Region. Otherwise, it was impossible for such masters to remain unknown; Lin Ming would have already heard about them.

Lin Ming frowned a bit as he thought about what the goal of these three individuals could be. But at this moment, Li Yifeng's true essence sound transmission resounded in his ears, "Brother Lin's friends truly come from far and wide! If I'm not wrong then these three come from the number one bandit group of the northwestern barren desert. Although they are bandits, the truth is that they are also a super sect with an inheritance of over 7000 years!

"Their sect had an Emperor level powerhouse appear just 2000 years ago. Now, that strange Emperor level monster should be living in seclusion somewhere in the great desert. Even my father has to give several points of respect to him. As for this second stage Life Destruction demonic path martial artist, he should be one of the Little Masters of the Northwest Great Desert, Wang Yichan. Although he is at the second stage of Life Destruction, his true combat strength far surpasses his cultivation boundary. When he was young he was the most famous talent of the Northwest Great Desert. He was able to fight Revolving Core powerhouses at the

Xiantian realm and fight Life Destruction masters at the Revolving Core realm. I never thought that he would be interested in Brother Lin and wish to become friends! Hahaha!”

“Become friends?” Lin Ming was speechless. He certainly wasn’t naïve enough to think that this person had come out of nowhere to meet him. As a martial artist of the righteous path he was, in a way, enemies with demonic path martial artists, so relations would always be ambivalent.

Lin Ming cupped his hands together and said, “Today is my wedding celebration. What are you gentlemen here for?”

Wang Yichan laughed twice and cupped his hands back in respect. “I am the Young Master of the Northwest Great Desert Demon region. I heard that the South Sea Demon Region’s Great Elder Xuan Wuji died under Young Hero’s hands. May I confirm whether or not this matter is true?”

Lin Ming thought for a moment and then nodded, “Yes.”

“So it was so...” Wang Yichan shook his head and slowly said, “Young Hero Lin may have killed Xuan Wuji, but you may not know that Xuan Wuji had a number of cooperative deals with my Northwest Great Desert. Now that Xuan Wuji has died, these deals have naturally become invalid. More importantly, Xuan Wuji still owes my Northwest Great Desert a number of benefits that haven’t been returned.”

“Deals?” Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up. Most of Xuan Wuji’s so-

called deals had to do with helping him break through to the next boundary. “Are you saying that Xuan Wuji broke through to the fourth stage of Life Destruction with your help?”

“Young Hero Lin is fleet of thought!” Wang Yichan said without reservation, “Xuan Wuji indeed managed to barely cross the fourth stage of Life Destruction with my Northwest Great Desert’s help. But, the promises that he made haven’t been fulfilled, and this has caused massive losses to my Northwest Great Desert.”

“I see.”

No wonder Xuan Wuji was still able to forcefully break through the fourth stage of Life Destruction even though he didn’t obtain a complete Nirvana Dragon Root; it was all because he had the Northwest Great Desert secretly assisting him. The Northwest Great Desert must have paid a great price for this and Xuan Wuji must have also promised to repay a number of benefits. However, now all of that had become water leaking through a bamboo basket.

The Northwest Great Desert had helped Xuan Wuji to destroy Divine Phoenix Island in a way, and also to break through to the fourth stage of Life Destruction. If it wasn’t for this, then the Giant Leviathan wouldn’t have been sealed in the deep sea trench for four months. Lin Ming held his arms against his chest and looked at Wang Yichan with indifference. In the end, what they had done was more or less unrelated and their domains were different to begin with, so there wasn’t anything to pursue here.

“Mister Wang shouldn’t have come to my grand wedding just to

say these sorts of things, then, what are you here for? Stop going in circles and say what you want.” Lin Ming asked, straight to the point.

“Haha, since Young Hero Lin is being so frank then so shall I! Xuan Wuji broke through to the fourth stage of Life Destruction, causing a number of problems and dangers for Young Hero Lin. Conversely, Young Hero Lin also killed Xuan Wuji, making us suffer a number of losses. Our areas of influence and goals are different to begin with so this matter should end here. But before that, my Northwest Great Desert provided Xuan Wuji a number of items. He still hasn’t paid for these items yet, but that’s how things are. Still, these items belong to my Northwest Great Desert. Now that Xuan Wuji has died, I’m sure that his spatial ring must have also fallen into Young Hero Lin’s possession!”

“And?”

“I hope that Young Hero Lin will return these two items. First, there is a white jade key, and secondly, there is a Life Destruction Pill!”

“Hahaha!” Lin Ming laughed out loud. Lin Ming had indeed seen these two objects in Xuan Wuji’s spatial ring. As for that white jade key, that should be a kind of item used to open the entrance to a mystic realm. But, that Life Destruction Pill was of great help to a martial artist to cross the stages of Life Destruction; it was an incomparably precious medicine.

Wang Yichan frowned, “Young Hero Lin, what is it? Do you have some doubts?”

“Doubts? What a joke!” Lin Ming’s smile suddenly disappeared. “These items are indeed in my hands, but you actually open your mouth and call them your Northwest Great Desert’s treasure? Who would actually believe that? Moreover, they could be said to be called tools that you provided to Xuan Wuji to destroy Divine Phoenix Island. According to your words, you lent a saber to Xuan Wuji so he could murder others, and I should allow him to kill me. But if I killed Xuan Wuji instead, then I have to return that weapon to you still? Is there any logic in the world as ridiculous as this!?”

Lin Ming was originally someone with a strong character to begin with. As he loudly spoke these words, the guests in the main hall also began to shout back.

“What Young Emperor Lin said is right; the Northwest Great Desert has gone too far!”

“Even though that’s true, the Northwest Great Desert is too powerful. Even one of their Young Masters is at the second stage of Life Destruction, and not an ordinary one at that too. His two guards are also at the third stage of Life Destruction. It is far too difficult for Divine Phoenix Island to think of contending with such a super power!”

The Northwest Great Desert had an Emperor level powerhouse so it could be called a Holy Land level force. However, Divine Phoenix Island was a mere fourth-grade sect. There simply wasn’t any comparison between them.

In the end, the Northwest Great Desert was using their greater status to bully others. If Divine Phoenix Island was a force on the same level as the four Divine Kingdoms, then they wouldn't have dared to come here so rashly.

Wang Yichan grimaced. Still, he didn't lose his composure. He calmly said, "Young Hero Lin, I can make some concessions to you. That white jade key is one of the keys necessary to open a mystic realm left behind by a sixth-grade sect that was ruled by a Supreme Elder of the demonic path. All seven of these keys are needed to open the mystic realm. You can rely on this key to join us in entering the mystic realm and even obtain a treasure from within."

In Wang Yichan's eyes, this was already a very attractive condition. To explore a mystic realm left behind by an ancient demonic path Supreme Elder, this was a chance that could even move an Emperor level powerhouse. Life Destruction masters would absolutely go crazy for it!

Lin Ming was only at the late Revolving Core realm. If he went and casually shared in some of the treasure then he could revel in it.

However, he never imagined that Lin Ming would flat-out refuse, "I'm sorry, but I'm not interested!"

Who cared about the Holy Lord of a sixth-grade sect? At most it would be a mystic realm on par with the Demon God Imperial Palace. After Lin Ming had gone to Timeworn Phoenix City and experienced the Chaos Stones, Ancient Phoenix Totems, God

Transforming Mirror, and other such great lucky chances, these types of mystic realms no longer held much interest to him. Moreover, entering a dangerous and unknown mystic realm with a bunch of demonic path martial artists was simply a recipe for disaster. It was highly likely that he could even be killed inside. Lin Ming wasn't arrogant enough to think that he was unrivalled to anyone in the Life Destruction realm. There were far too many Life Destruction powerhouses in the world that vastly outstripped Xuan Wuji in strength.

Wang Yichan's face finally sank to the ground. Their Northwest Great Desert was a Holy Land level force and he had even humbled himself to come to a fourth-grade sect to negotiate. This was already showing due reference and face to everyone involved. Yet, this fellow Lin Ming actually reached for a yard after taking an inch.

"Lin Ming, we've come here with enough sincerity, so what do you want?"

Lin Ming thought for a moment, his eyes faintly sweeping past the concubine standing next to Wang Yichan. Then, he said, "If you want this jade key, you must exchange it for that woman as well as a spirit vein source of the fourth grade or above!"

Lin Ming's few words left the entire audience dumbfounded. Even Mu Yuhuang was rattled. There was nothing wrong with Lin Ming asking for a spirit vein source, but he also wanted that woman?

Mu Yuhuang looked at that girl. The girl didn't even seem 20

years old. With her Houtian realm cultivation at that age, her talent could be considered adequate but nothing spectacular. It also needed to be mentioned that Lin Ming wasn't someone who was controlled by his primal urges of lust, but even if it were a demon path vandal that walked the road of obscenity and lasciviously drooled over women, they still wouldn't trade a priceless key to open a mystic realm for a woman!

Everyone thought that Wang Yichan would agree to this matter and then haggle over the matter of the spirit vein source, but they didn't imagine that Wang Yichan would scowl and say, "Lin Ming, you would rather do things the hard way than the easy way!?"

Chapter 755 – Swords Drawn

Wang Yichan's words were a clear threat; the atmosphere immediately became tense.

Although a fourth grade spirit vein source was precious, it was still absolutely obtainable to a power on the level of the Northwest Great Desert.

Before this, the Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan Patriarch had taken out a fire-attribute spirit vein source at the quasi fifth grade, thus he felt pained in his heart to do so.

Now with Lin Ming wanted to exchange a mystic realm key for a fourth grade spirit source vein, that wasn't too expensive or demanding at all.

But, the crux of this entire matter was – that jade pendant woman!

“Interesting, very interest! He doesn't love treasures but loves beauties, hahaha!” Li Yifeng said with zest as he drank some wine in a corner of the hall.

“Does Young Master think that everyone is as depraved as you are? There must be some problem with that woman if they are fighting over her!” Li Yifeng's maid grumpily said.

“But...” The young maid suddenly smiled, a bit happy that there

was a ruckus occurring, “No matter what the situation is, it’s quite lively right now. If they fight then that Wang Yichan boy won’t be easy to deal with. He is a talent himself and he’s also crossed the second stage of Life Destruction; it’s hard to estimate just how high his true combat strength is. I think it’s most likely for Lin Ming to lose here. Since he claims to be a Young Emperor then this should be fun. I wonder just how this whole debacle will end.”

“You naughty girl, your heart is no good at all. But, this Wang Yichan is indeed fierce; it won’t be easy to deal with him.” Li Yifeng licked his lips. Whether it was Lin Ming or Wang Yichan, both of them would be future overlords of their own domains. Although Divine Phoenix Island was the weaker party right now, Wang Yichan wouldn’t do something so brash as offending a potential future powerhouse.

Lin Ming didn’t expect that Wang Yichan would have such a violent reaction. As he looked at the young woman standing next to him, he discovered she simply stood there like a block of wood, her gray pupils not even having the slightest change in them. From just looking at her, one felt a deep sense of pity and regret for her existence.

This woman... she shouldn’t have been willing to be Wang Yichan’s concubine. Rather, she had been forced. She was completely indifferent to Lin Ming asking for her, as if her heart had died out long ago.

What sort of secret was on her? How was it related to the goddess in the Eternal Demon Abyss?

For a time, all sorts of thoughts flashed through Lin Ming's mind. The reason that he had wanted this mysterious woman to begin with was because he wanted to ask her about her life experiences as well as her family. Secondly, he wanted to conceal the secret of the jade pendant. If he directly requested the jade pendant from Wang Yichan then it would easily arouse suspicions. If Wang Yichan thought that there was some special secret with the jade pendant then he would definitely refuse.

But now, it looked as if this young woman had an extraordinary significance to Wang Yichan.

Lin Ming caused all sorts of suspicions to rise in his heart; there was definitely something special about her.

"I can provide you a top fourth grade spirit vein source, but as for my concubine, I advise you not to think about that any more. I hate others encroaching on my women the most!"

Lin Ming replied with a true essence sound transmission, "Sir, if I'm not wrong then this woman is still a virgin. Although she is your concubine, you have no intention of marrying her, am I right? As long as I can borrow this woman then that will be enough. As for the fourth grade spirit vein source, the quasi fifth grade spirit vein source from the deep sea Turquoise-Eyed Ape Clan will be enough. I need to borrow this woman for three years, and three years from now I will return her to you untouched. When that time comes, you can again receive her into your room!"

The reason that Lin Ming said these words was first to probe if Wang Yichan was only interested in the jade pendant young

woman's beauty. Secondly, he asked for a three year deadline because three years from now, Lin Ming's strength would definitely have risen to another level. At that time, he would have the strength to negotiate better terms. After all, the Northwest Great Desert was a Holy Land level force; Lin Ming didn't wish to become enemies with them.

“Lin Ming, stop repeatedly testing my bottom line, otherwise I will turn your grand wedding into a funeral!” As Wang Yichan spoke he released a thick killing intent. This also confirmed Lin Ming's guess. Wang Yichan definitely didn't keep this woman around him for her beauty. In fact, it was unknown whether or not she was even his concubine.

“Turn my wedding into a funeral?” Lin Ming coldly smiled, “It's true that you are from a Holy Land, but so what? If we really fight then I will have the Giant Leviathan lead everyone from Divine Phoenix Island deep into the South Sea. I don't believe that in such a vast South Sea I won't be able to evade you. And then, dozens of years from now, I will instead kill my way into your Northwest Great Desert. At that time, it's hard to say just how the situation will turn out!”

“Kill your way into my Northwest Great Desert a few dozen years from now? Hahaha!” Wang Yichan recklessly laughed, “Others call you Young Emperor, but do you really believe you are capable of entering the Divine Sea dozens of years from now? How ridiculous! I don't need the future, just here and with my strength alone I can already dye Divine Phoenix Island in blood!”

As Wan Yichan spoke to here, a red light appeared in his eyes and

a faint black fog seemed to emanate from him as if he were ready to erupt at any moment.

Although there were many esteemed guests here, the strongest among them were Nanyun Wang and Abbot Konghe of the Great Zen Temple. Both of them were third stage Life Destruction masters. However, they were still guests here and as heads of their own forces, they wouldn't meddle in affairs of the Northwest Great Desert and Divine Phoenix island.

As for everyone else, they were nothing to speak of.

Seeing the tense atmosphere that was ready to blow up at any second, the guests present turned somewhat white. This other party was not easy to handle. Wang Yichan's foundation was extremely solid; it was hard to say where the limits of his strength were!

Both of them were geniuses, but Lin Ming was only at the late Revolving Core compared to the second stage of Life Destruction. That was a large boundary and a small boundary's difference added together.

Jumping ranks to fight wasn't terrifying, what was terrifying was for a favored son of heaven to jump ranks to fight amongst his peers. Even a difference of half a small boundary was extremely difficult to overcome.

No matter how one looked at it, Divine Phoenix Island looked a bit powerless here. It would be an injustice if they were swept up in

the mess and ended up perishing.

“Young Master, why are still talking nonsense with this brat. Just capture him and take what you need away. If he remains a thickheaded idiot who still wants to chew off more than he can chew, just kill him!” Behind Wang Yichan, a third stage Life Destruction Elder drew out his weapon.

Ha!

A sharp origin energy immediately cut several nearby wedding tables in half, causing a number of exquisite jade tableware pieces to fall onto the ground, broken.

As Lin Ming saw this he scowled. This was his grand wedding banquet after all. With all these esteemed guests gathered here at his home, it should be a festive and auspicious event. But, for this person to draw out his weapon like this was truly slapping his face in public.

At this time, two women appeared in the main hall – they were Mu Qianyu and Qin Xingxuan. According to normal wedding customs, Mu Qianyu should be waiting in the nuptial chambers while Lin Ming greeted and entertained the guests outside. But now that matters had devolved to this level, she had no choice but to appear.

“Master, what’s happening?” As Mu Qianyu saw the scene unfolding in the main hall her complexion paled a bit. Mu Yuhuang quickly placed Mu Qianyu behind her, her expression

solemn. “Yu’er, tell Demonshine to ready the Giant Leviathan, the situation is very bad right now!”

Wang Yichan simply didn’t care about what Mu Yuhuang was doing. He coldly smiled and with a flick of his finger, a palm-sized jade dish flew up, falling atop his fingertips where it rapidly spun around.

Lin Ming was startled as he saw this. As for Li Yifeng, his complexion completely changed. This was... a battle spirit!

“That brat Wang Yichan has comprehended his own battle spirit!?”

Generally, only Divine Sea powerhouses were able to form their own battle spirit. But, there were occasionally extraordinarily talented martial artists that were able to comprehend their own battle spirits in the Life Destruction realm. The growth of a battle spirit followed that of a martial artist’s cultivation. Thus, the earlier a martial artist comprehended a battle spirit, the more potential for growth there was in the future.

‘To comprehend a battle spirit at the second stage of Life Destruction, there are many Divine Kingdom Princes and Crown Princes that aren’t able to achieve this. It seems this Wang Yichan has an amazing talent in the aspect of martial arts will!’

Li Yifeng sighed in his heart. In this regard, he had no choice but to be ashamed at his own inferiority!

A talent often had particular areas in which they excelled. For instance, Li Yifeng excelled in the Concept and Laws of Wind. His comprehension of the Concept of Wind had already caught up to that of a Divine Sea Supreme Elder.

But, while this Wang Yichan was clearly extraordinary in the aspect of will, it was possible that he was relatively weak in the comprehension of Laws. There were very few geniuses that were strong in all aspects.

It wasn't just Li Yifeng, but the worldly and experienced Great Zen Temple's Abbot Konghe also recognized this battle spirit. He bowed his head and began to recite Buddhist sutras. It appeared that this situation seemed more and more likely to end poorly.

“Lin Ming, I will give you a final chance to hand over that jade key. You have already aroused my anger, now I will no longer pay you any compensation.”

Lin Ming narrowed his eyes and looked at the spinning jade plate above Wang Yichan's fingertip. This person obviously thought far too highly of himself. Otherwise, he would have poured his battle spirit into his own treasure weapon instead of a jade plate.

As he glanced over at the grey-pupiled young woman standing beside Wang Yichan, he noticed a sad light in her eyes as if she were mourning for her fate. Lin Ming was inexplicably touched; just what sort of story was behind this woman?

“It seems you insist on dying! Then, let me help you along!”

Wang Yichan coldly coughed, suddenly throwing out his palm. The battle spirit-infused jade dish was like a death-dealing wheel as it cut straight towards Lin Ming's neck. In that moment, the degree of hardness of that small jade dish had reached that of a heaven-step treasure!

“Be careful!”

Mu Qianyu and Qin Xingxuan cried out in the same time, their hearts in chaos. At this time, they couldn't imagine just what they would do if Lin Ming was harmed.

Lin Ming's vision condensed and he flicked the fingers on his hand. A battle spirit wrapped around the air, howling forth like an arrow!

A battle spirit was immeasurably fast. In a flash, the battle spirit of the air and the battle spirit of the small jade dish violently collided.

With a 'peng!' sound, the small jade dish split in half. As for that battle spirit infused air current, it continued to cut towards the point between Wang Yichan's eyebrows without slowing.

“What!?”

Wang Yichan was greatly shocked. Waving his right hand he immediately brought up a black long sword!

With a loud ringing sound of metal crashing, the battle spirit smashed into the blade of the black sword. The long sword trembled!

That Li Yifeng who had been drinking some good wine and watching the play unfold was dumbfounded on the spot. His mouth opened wide, wine pouring down the corners of his mouth as he looked on in shock, seeming like an old man suffering from senility.

A battle spirit was powerful but it also depended on what kind of object it was attached too. Attaching it to a treasure obviously provided the strongest striking power. In his arrogance, Wang Yichan had underestimated his opponent and only used a jade dish. But, Lin Ming was even more arrogant and had only used the air!

Air was even lighter and frailer than that small jade dish. But, in Lin Ming's hand, air had actually broken through that small jade dish!

Chapter 756 – Duel of Battle Spirits

The wisp of air pierced through the small jade dish and still had ample force left over to shoot towards Wang Yichan. Wang Yichan took his sword out to block it, but the strike still caused his low-grade heaven-step treasure sword to tremble. From this alone, the difference in the two battle spirits could be imagined!

“This Lin Ming, if I’m guessing correctly then I fear that battle spirit has nearly reached large success of the bronze level!” Li Yifeng sucked in a breath of cold air. Even the young maid standing beside him had widened eyes. As someone who also came from the four Divine Kingdoms, she naturally understood what it meant to have a bronze level battle spirit at large success.

Every level of a battle spirit was divided into four ranks: elementary, small success, large success, and perfection. It wasn’t wrong that Wang Yichan was talented, but he had still just formed his battle spirit several years ago and its rank had slowly reached the elementary rank. As for Lin Ming, his battle spirit was already at the peak of small success; there were even many Divine Sea powerhouses that hadn’t been able to achieve this degree yet!

A difference of a little more than a boundary wasn’t much at all, however, Wang Yichan’s cultivation was at the second stage of Life Destruction and Lin Ming was only at the late Revolving Core. If Lin Ming were to step into the second stage of Life Destruction then it was possible for his battle spirit to reach bronze level perfection, and perhaps he could even obtain a silver battle spirit before he reached the Divine Sea!

A silver battle spirit was a legendary existence. Thus, the gap between the two could be seen from just this.

‘With a mere late Revolving Core cultivation his battle spirit has already reached the peak of small success. Then, when did Lin Ming form his battle spirit? The early Revolving Core realm?

‘...Or even extreme Xiantian?’

As Li Yifeng thought this, he felt a chill crawl up his spine. Even that young maid who didn’t think too much of Lin Ming was also shocked speechless. In terms of will, Lin Ming’s talent in that category had exceeded her understanding.

Perhaps... he really did kill Xuan Wuji by himself.

As this thought echoed in the young maid’s heart, she closed her dropped jaw.

If Li Yifeng could think of this then Wang Yichan was even clearer on what was happening. As for Great Zen Temple’s Abbot Konghe, although he didn’t understand the different ranks of battle spirits, he was still able to determine that Lin Ming’s battle spirit was far more formidable than Wang Yichan’s.

In that moment, Abbot Konghe felt that the world of juniors had reached a level that was nearly impossible to catch up to. Maybe in a few decades, or even less, these juniors would reach heights that he couldn’t even comprehend.

“Lin Ming, I never thought that you would also have a battle spirit.” Wang Yichan’s lips twitched. His battle spirit was his ultimate killer move. He had intended to use it to shock and awe the entire audience, but he never imagined that Lin Ming would turn it around to shame him instead.

His heart sank as he thought to himself, ‘My battle spirit has a demonic path attribute to it. I was too careless just now and didn’t use the special attribute. If I go all out, then a difference of a small boundary shouldn’t matter too much.’

Wang Yichan couldn’t stand that he had been defeated in what he excelled at the most. This was a major blow to his self confidence.

“Slaughter path attribute, battle spirit assault!”

A black light suddenly erupted in Wang Yichan’s eyes, turning into a substantiated sword of will that thrust straight at Lin Ming!

Wang Yichan had comprehended a battle spirit when he was crossing through Life Destruction. Moreover, what he comprehended was a rare specialized battle spirit. This battle spirit had a slaughter path attribute; it was able to display the strongest destructive power in battle, even able to directly extinguish the life force of an opponent!

A duel of battle spirits?

Lin Ming's mind stirred. Before this, he had heard Demonshine say that martial artists with battle spirits could battle in the world of will through their battle spirits.

Wang Yichan was the first martial artist Lin Ming met who had a battle spirit. Before this, although he had never truly fought with a martial artist in the world of will, he had done something similar during his stay at the Road of Emperor. There, when Lin Ming faced the road of will lights, in order to pass every light he would have to enter the will world and engage the residual will of the past Emperors in battle.

Lin Ming was not a stranger to battles within the world of will. In fact, it was quite familiar to him.

Lin Ming's thoughts focused and the battle spirit floating in his spiritual sea transformed into a long spear that roared forth!

An azure ray of pure will shot forth from between Lin Ming's eyebrows, meeting Wang Yichang's sword of black will.

Peng!

As both battle spirits collided, Lin Ming and Wang Yichan both arrived at the world of will.

Without further ado, Wang Yichan flicked his finger and a massive black python appeared out of thin air, rushing towards Lin

Ming. This was a python formed from Wang Yichan's thoughts. In a battle within the world of will, victory didn't depend on cultivation methods of martial skills; even cultivation didn't have that great of an influence. Rather, it purely depended on whose will was stronger.

Compared to the road of will lights Lin Ming had once faced, Wang Yichan's battle spirit was far inferior. An azure long spear shot forth like a meteor, drilling right through the black python.

A great deal of black blood rained to the ground. Wang Yichan devilishly grinned and then loudly shouted, "Slaughter energy, swallow all!"

At that moment, the thick black fog burst out from the python's body, swallowing up that azure long spear.

With a 'chi chi chi' sound, the black mist melded into the spear shaft as if it were trying to assimilate with it.

Wang Yichan laughed, "Lin Ming, my battle spirit has a slaughter path attribute! I can extinguish your life and swallow your will!"

Battle spirits could also have different attributes?

Lin Ming's mind stirred. He hadn't heard Demonshine mention this point before.

Lin Ming wasn't unfamiliar with slaughter path attribute

abilities. When he completed his twelve-winged Heavenly Demon Tattoo he had obtained the slaughter path attribute Death God force field. But, this was a battle in the world of will. He couldn't use the Death God force field here unless he reproduced it using his own will. In the end, a battle in the world of will depended entirely on whose will was stronger.

But he didn't need the Death God force field to begin with. If a battle spirit could have an attribute then Lin Ming's azure will also had an attribute. That was – endlessness!

“Break!”

Lin Ming gave a deep shout and an azure light suddenly radiated outwards. With a resounding dragon roar, an Azure Dragon impacted the heavens, thrusting its claws out and directly ripping apart the black python's body to pieces.

Lin Ming had obtained only a single drop of reverse scale blood, but the truth was that its quality was far higher than the blood of the Ancient Phoenix.

The blood of the Ancient Phoenix was only ordinary phoenix blood. In the legends, a Phoenix God Beast preyed upon Giant Leviathans. Its size was no less than that of a Golden-Winged Roc, and when it spread out its two wings it was able to hide the endless blue skies. It was difficult to say just how much blood such a creature had!

As for that drop of reverse scale blood Lin Ming had obtained in

the Sorcerer Pagoda, that came from an Azure True Dragon's reverse scale. For dragons that had a reverse scale, to touch it meant death. The blood from the reverse scale was only inferior to blood essence. Naturally, the quality was much higher than a phoenix's ordinary blood.

Bang bang bang!

The black fog was completely scattered by the azure energy. After exterminating the black python, the azure dragon rushed forth with unstoppable force, firing right into Wang Yichan.

“Damnit!”

Wang Yichan angrily cried out as he produced a long sword, cutting it towards that azure dragon.

Peng!

The long sword broke apart and Wang Yichan's body was torn in half by the azure dragon's claws. With a miserable scream he was thrust out of the world of will, his eyes opening even as his body dripped with a cold sweat and his face became pallid.

In the world of will where the battle had only lasted for three breaths of time, Wang Yichan had been defeated!

Lin Ming opened his eyes looking calm as usual. As his cultivation constantly rose, his battle spirit became increasingly

close to breaking through to large success of the bronze level. Within the Sky Spill Continent, a Divine Sea powerhouse with a large success bronze level battle spirit could be considered extraordinary.

“Lin Ming!”

Wang Yichan’s mouth twitched as he gasped for breath in great gulps of air. In this fight of battle spirits, his main body hadn’t been damaged but his will had been injured. It would be several days before he was restored to his peak condition.

He was unwilling to accept that defeat just now and wanted to fight Lin Ming again in the real world. However, after having lost just now, fighting again would not leave any good impressions on those present and even winning would mean he lost face. Moreover, Wang Yichan had been frightened in that exchange just now; he wasn’t too confident that he could defeat Lin Ming, even in the real world.

“Wang Yichan, if I’m not wrong then that so-called concubine of yours was captured from somewhere and then had a spell placed on her. Although I won’t call myself some sort of honorable gentleman, I wouldn’t do anything recklessly shameful. If you two truly loved each other then I would have no objections, but now, taking her from your hands is well within reason!”

Lin Ming’s words were much more reasonable, and now that he had won that battle against Wang Yichan just now, all of the initiative had fallen into his hands.

“Lin Ming, do you truly wish to become enemies with my Northwest Great Desert? Have you clearly thought about just what the consequences will be like!?” Wang Yichan said out loud before continuing with a true essence sound transmission, “I will trade a fifth grade spirit vein source for that white jade key!”

Wang Yichan had no choice but to lay down the threat of sect extermination. But at this moment, Li Yifeng laughed and stood up, “Brother Wang, you’ve already lost what there is to lose, can’t you afford what you lost?”

Wang Yichan followed the direction of the voice. As he saw Li Yifeng casually standing at the corner of the main hall, his heart jumped. This was definitely another extraordinary young elite! This person must come from some great power. “You are...”

“I am Li Yifeng!”

“Li Yifeng! Prince of the Seven Star Divine Kingdom! To think that such a solemn and dignified Divine Kingdom Prince would actually come to Lin Ming’s wedding celebrations. Could it be that your Seven Star Divine Kingdom is trying to recruit Lin Ming?”

Wang Yichan felt his heart go cold as he saw Li Yifeng. This Li Yifeng’s comprehension of the Law of Wind had reached an extremely high level and his foundation was incomparably solid too. He had at least twice the amount of total true essence that a normal Revolving Core martial artist would have, and the power of the stars was sealed in his right hand, greatly strengthening him.

Of course, Wang Yichan wouldn't care about these things at all. After all, Li Yifeng's cultivation wasn't that high. But what Li Yifeng represented actually caused Wang Yichan to feel a pang of fear.

Li Yifeng represented one of the four Divine Kingdoms, the Seven Star Divine Kingdom!

Compared to the four Divine Kingdoms, the Northwest Great Desert was far lacking in all aspects.

The Seven Star Divine Kingdom wanted to win Lin Ming over to their side?

Wang Yichan couldn't help but think this. If this were so, then what grounds did his Northwest Great Desert have to threaten Divine Phoenix Island?

“The jade key and the Life Destruction Pill!”

Wang Yichan spat out these words in a livid rage. He did care about the Life Destruction Pill, but what was most important here was that mystic realm key. In truth, this key contained some of Xuan Wuji's works inside, otherwise it would never have been placed with him to begin with. If every key wasn't collected then they would be unable to open the mystic realm left behind by that demonic path Holy Lord.

Lin Ming waved his hand and two jade boxes flew towards Wang Yichan. After Wang Yichan received them he swept his perception through them quickly and then coldly humphed, “We’re leaving!”

Wang Yichan brought his two underlings and left in great strides, leaving behind that woman with gray pupils to stand quietly in the main hall. Slowly, everyone’s visions turned towards her.

Chapter 757 – Duanmu Qun, Lan Xin, Feng Shen

“What is your name?”

Lin Ming asked as he looked at the young woman with the jade pendant.

The young woman’s dark gray pupils flashed with indifference; she didn’t bother answering Lin Ming’s question.

The guests present were secretly whispering amongst themselves. Just what was so special about this young woman that Lin Ming would trade a mystic realm key for her? And it seemed as if Wang Yichan was extremely reluctant to do so, as if he had suffered a great loss in the process.

“Xingxuan, please take her away and have someone unravel the spell on her. Let her have some rest and don’t let anyone disturb her.” Lin Ming thought that this young woman had some emotion problems at the moment. It was best to let her relax for some time before he asked her about her life and what the secret to that jade pendant was.

The young woman was taken away, leaving all the guests disappointed. They were all curious individuals and also wanted to see just what was so special about this young woman.

“I sincerely apologize for frightening everyone just now.

Everyone, we shall exchange for some new tables and dishes and continue the celebrations once more!” Lin Ming cupped his fists across his chest and apologized to all the guests.

To have such a ruckus at a wedding banquet would normally cause a loss of face. However, Lin Ming’s actions had been sharp and decisive. Not only did he not lose any face, but it instead caused his prestige to rise even more. It seemed that being top master of the South Sea was no longer an adequate title to describe Lin Ming.

“Lin Ming’s battle spirit is only a small step from reaching large success of the bronze level. Moreover, it seems his battle spirit also has a strange attribute to it, otherwise it would have been impossible for him to defeat Wang Yichan with such ease.”

Li Yifeng said as he waved his fan. He was becoming more and more interested in Lin Ming. “This is a true talent. If we can win him over to our Seven Star Divine Kingdom then that will be a great boost to us.”

“Young Master wants to win him over to enter our Divine Kingdom?” The young maid near Li Yifeng asked with surprise.

“Hehe, he has his own sect so directly pulling him into our Divine Kingdom won’t be easy. Such an extraordinary youth won’t necessarily be willing to enter our Divine Kingdom. But, even if we can’t win him over, being on good terms with him is also good!”

To the melody of an orchestra, the entire banquet continued on

in a festive mood. After some time, a youth jumped onto the central stage platform and loudly exclaimed, “I am the Dire Space Sect’s Mo Shaoyun. I would like to show off my meager skills for the entertainment of all!”

“Haha, to dance around by yourself is too boring. I am Supreme Mystery Temple’s Sun Tai, how about I dance with you?” Another youth also jumped onstage. Although he called this ‘dancing’, the truth was that it was a contest.

Of course, in order to ensure that it remained in step with the festivities they would use as many fancy and beautiful moves as possible.

In the traditions of the Sky Spill Continent, whenever a large-scale celebration occurred where heroes and young elites from all over gathered together, it would be the time when the young disciples of the great sects had their chance to show off their skills.

During Revered Master Tianguang’s birthday banquet there had also been a great number of heroic young elites that had gone onstage to show off their skills. At that time, Lin Ming had broken apart Lei Jingtian’s plot, cut down Lei Mubai, and from that point on his name had begun to resound in the South Horizon Region.

Of course, the current Lin Ming had gone from an invisible young disciple of a sect to the top master of the South Sea. He naturally wouldn’t play around with these fellow juniors.

As Li Yifeng’s maid, Qing’er, saw this, her eyes lit up. A battle of

juniors from the South Horizon Region normally wouldn't enter her eyes to begin with. Compared to the four Divine Kingdoms, the South Horizon Region's heroic young elites were not much at all. Lin Ming was simply a completely different beast.

"Heehee, I want to try too." Qing'er jumped onstage, her early Revolving Core cultivation stunning all the young elites present. Li Yifeng wryly smiled. Normally, martial artists that participated in such banquets would be around 17 or 18 years old. Qing'er's age had actually surpassed this measure.

"Would anyone like to come up?" Qing'er issued a challenge out loud. The disciples of the South Horizon Region and Five Element Region immediately began complaining of this bitter situation in their hearts. Facing this girl, anyone young who came up would just embarrass themselves, but anyone older couldn't step up. For a time there was an awkward silence.

"I'll play with you."

At this time, a voice sounded out and Lan Xin stepped onstage.

Lan Xin and Qing'er were around the same age. Both of them were beautiful and exquisite young girls; they naturally attracted everyone's attention.

"Who is this blue-clothed girl with the pointy ears?"

"She's likely Young Emperor Lin's friend. She's so young and yet

she wants to fight with a Divine Kingdom disciple?” The guests talked amongst themselves. To them, Lan Xin was an unknown.

“Her opponent is a Revolving Core martial artist. Can this blue-clothed girl really win?”

As a martial artist of the Fey race, Lan Xin’s cultivation was at the peak of a one star Fey King; her cultivation was only a step away from reaching the boundary of a two star Fey King. Because of the different cultivation systems, none of the guests present were able to see through Lan Xin’s cultivation.

“Who are you?” Qing’er didn’t think that anyone would actually come up and challenge her, especially one that was at her age. If she hadn’t seen just how terrifying Lin Ming was with her own eyes, she would never have placed anyone here in her eyes to begin with.

“Fey race, Blue Silver Forest, Lan Xin!” Lan Xin announced the name of her Blue Silver Holy Land without any intention of hiding it. There were just far too many strange races in the Sky Spill Continent. In the South Sea alone there were already innumerable deep sea tribes. To have someone from the Fey race appear was only a novelty, nothing more.

“What is the Blue Silver Forest? I’ve never heard of it before!”

“Maybe it’s some island from deep within the South Sea, or maybe some forest at the bottom of the sea. This is the first time I’ve heard about this Fey race too.”

The martial artists present discussed amongst themselves. Naturally, none of them had ever heard the name of the Blue Silver Holy Land before.

Li Yifeng was playing with his fan but in truth he had already noticed Lan Xin, Duanmu Qun, and Feng Shen. These three were obviously not common talents of their generation. As for how strong they were, he had no idea. “I wonder where these strange races came from; their cultivation paths are extremely peculiar. They don’t seem much older than Qing’er, but even knowing her cultivation they still dare to challenge her. It seems they are also top talents!”

Although Qing’er was Li Yifeng’s maid in appearance, the truth was that she was also a talented genius girl from the Seven Star Divine Kingdom. Her talent was worse than a Divine Kingdom Prince’s, but not by much.

Lin Ming smiled as he saw Lan Xin and Qing’er step up onstage, posturing themselves as they prepared to show off their skills. A one-star Fey King was slightly better than a human early Revolving Core. Lan Xin was a peak one-star Fey King and could advance into a two-star Fey King at any given time. This was nearly equal to a human middle Revolving Core powerhouse.

Lan Xin had the advantage of cultivation to start with and her talent was only inferior to Duanmu Qun’s. This was truly bullying others.

As the many guests were expressing how they thought this battle would unfold, Lan Xin and Qing'er had already started battling each other.

Most of the people present didn't think Lan Xin had a chance of winning, but the result actually left them all stunned. In just three moves, Lan Xin had already broken apart Qing'er's hairpin.

Qing'er was originally an arrogant and overly proud girl. How could she stand taking such a blow, especially when her opponent didn't look any older than her? She couldn't allow this to stand!

Not being convinced in her heart, Qing'er completely went all in. However, her defeat came even quicker. Lan Xin's cultivation completely suppressed Qing'er from all directions. In just two simple moves, Qing'er's long sword was sent flying away by Lan Xin. The victor and the loser were already evident.

The outcome of the battle had surprised everyone, causing the atmosphere of the celebrations to immediately heat up. Everyone's discussions revolved around Lan Xin. No one thought that there would be so many heroes gathered at Lin Ming's wedding banquet.

Qing'er returned to her own seat in a depressed state. She had gone up onstage to show off, but in a surprising turn of events she had been kicked into the mud instead.

"I told you not to underestimate others." Li Yifeng laughed as he patted Qing'er on the shoulder. He had already guessed that if Lan Xin dared to go onstage then she must have confidence in her own

strength. But, he didn't think that this Lan Xin girl would be able to defeat Qing'er so easily.

“Are you still talking? I've already lost any face I had left! I have no idea what that girl ate growing up, she simply isn't human at all!” Qing'er mumbled in a low voice. She felt that she had completely shamed herself just now.

“That young girl indeed has a suspicious origin.” Li Yifeng said as he bit his fan, his eyes shining. These friends of Lin Ming had truly surprised him. He had simply belittled the heroes of this world too often. That Lan Xin girl alone was already at the level of a Divine Kingdom Prince. As for those other two, they certainly weren't common either.

Besides Lin Ming, Li Yifeng also began noticing Lan Xin, Duanmu Qin, and Feng Shen.

“Haha, how about it? Does Brother Duanmu wish to go to the four Divine Kingdoms to have a look?” Lin Ming said to Duanmu Qun with a true essence sound transmission as he saw Lan Xin win with relaxed ease. This match was probably encouraged by Duanmu Qun. He wished for Lan Xin to spread out the reputation of the three of them in order to pave the way for their eventual entry into the four Divine Kingdoms.

The four Divine Kingdoms was where the outstanding young elites of the Sky Spill Continent gathered. If Duanmu Qun and the others went to the four Divine Kingdoms, they would naturally meet these people and duel with them in order to make progress. But, in order to know these people they first had to expose part of

their strength.

“Mm, I was indeed thinking that. Walking 10,000 miles is better than reading 10,000 books. The three of us came to the Sky Spill Continent to adventure and gain experience so that we wouldn’t remain frogs in a well. If the four Divine Kingdoms are where the Holy Lands of the Sky Spill Continent are located, then we naturally must go there.”

“Haha, I was also planning to make a journey to the four Divine Kingdoms, but... I have to wait some time before then.”

Lin Ming had already made plans for the future. First, he wanted to study alchemical techniques and inscription techniques. The reason to learn auxiliary skill was to enhance one’s soul. And the further one went in the road of martial arts, the more important the soul became. The soul was needed to move true essence, and even a battle spirit was carried within the spiritual sea. If one’s soul was weak and fragile then it would be much easier to encounter bottlenecks in the future.

This was also the reason why so many Supreme Elders from the Realm of the Gods learned their own auxiliary skills. Much less, Lin Ming also cultivated the Eight Inner Hidden Gates, so he would need a massive amount of medicines to complete his body transformation. Completely relying on lucky chances to supply him with the medicines and treasures he needed was clearly unrealistic.

But in order to study alchemy techniques to a high degree he would need a massive amount of materials, all the way from low

grade materials to heavenly treasures. This was a very high demand. It would be difficult to find all of the things he needed in a small place like the South Horizon Region.

“I’ve already guessed that Brother Lin is planning to go to the four Divine Kingdoms, but we plan on setting off by ourselves first. Perhaps the three of us might even separate in the four Divine Kingdoms.” Duanmu Qun said with a faint smile.

The gap between their strength and Lin Ming’s strength was already quite high, and this disparity was destined to increase, meaning that it was nearly impossible for them to continue journeying together. For instance, a mystic realm that Lin Ming could enter didn’t mean that they could necessarily follow, and Lin Ming might not be interested in a mystic realm that they could enter.

“Mm, good, then this wedding celebration will also be my farewell gift to Brother Duanmu!”

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Lin Ming’s wedding ceremony would last for an entire seven days. Of these seven days, Lin Ming only needed to appear on the first day to personally entertain his guests. For the remaining period, all of that would be singlehandedly managed by Mu Yuhuang.

At night, Lin Ming finally arrived at his marriage nuptial chambers. And at this time, Mu Qianyu was sitting on a large bed,

having waited there for a long time. Beside her, Qin Xingxuan was gazing in a bronze mirror, carefully helping her dress up.

Chapter 758 – The Wedding Night

“Little Sister Xingxuan, is my hairpin crooked?” Mu Qianyu asked Qin Xingxuan as she traced her hair.

“No, it’s beautiful.” Qin Xingxuan covered her mouth and chuckled. A wedding night was the most beautiful time of a woman’s life. Mu Qianyu naturally hoped that the most beautiful moment would also unfold tonight.

At this time, Qin Xingxuan heard the sounds of footsteps approaching. As she turned around she saw that Lin Ming had entered the room.

The laughing Qin Xingxuan suddenly stood up like a frightened rabbit, at a loss of what to do.

Mu Qianyu tightly gripped onto Qin Xingxuan’s hand and pulled her to sit back down. In truth, Mu Qianyu was also feeling extremely nervous at this time.

Whether it was Mu Qianyu, Qin Xingxuan, or Lin Ming, they were all neophytes of love. Although Lin Ming’s strength was abnormal and his talent was monstrous, facing things like feelings or how to coax a girl into happiness, he was absolutely ignorant towards all of this.

Martial artists weren’t like common mortals. They did fall in love, but their emotions didn’t manifest in yearning and dreaming of others every few days.

Towards Mu Qianyu and Qin Xingxuan, Lin Ming had never spoken words like 'I love you' or 'I like you'. He had never even made promises or asked questions such as 'marry me' or 'be my wife'.

This was because mortals were not good at controlling their emotions. Once they were touched by emotions, all of their thoughts would go into chaos and they could fall to great depths of sadness or rise to great heights of happiness.

As for martial cultivators, they threw themselves into their training and constantly hardened their will. In terms of feelings, even if they were profound or unforgettable, they wouldn't affect them to the point of them making overly flourishing mortal gestures.

But this didn't mean that a martial cultivator's feelings weren't deep.

In fact, it was just the opposite. The feelings of a martial artist who had tempered their will were even more everlasting. These were feelings and sentiments that could be eroded within a vast river for a thousand years or even ten thousand years and still remain unswerving and unchanged.

As Mu Qianyu was waiting in the nuptial chambers for Lin Ming, a single thought continued to reverberate in her heart. Her thoughts returned to the Demon God Imperial Palace when Lin Ming had thrust the Escape Symbol into her palm and said to her,

‘Wait for me there’.

And six days later he had made true on his promise. Then he had said to her, ‘Come with me... to kill.’

These words didn’t contain even a hint of the romance between men and women, but every word had sunk into her bones, bringing with it a firm, confident warmth that knew not death or fear.

What echoed in Mu Qianyu’s heart was far more profound and solemn than those casually spoken sweet words and honeyed phrases spoken at temporary heights of passion that could be false or true. To her, Lin Ming’s words were a pledge that far surpassed any vow of eternal love!

If Lin Ming really hadn’t returned then, Mu Qianyu had already determined to leave that broken world and dedicate her life to training until she became powerful enough to kill every person that had harmed Lin Ming one at a time. Then, she would re-enter that broken world and live out the rest of her life accompanying Lin Ming.

Such feelings did not need to be dressed up with flashy words.

And for Qin Xingxuan it was even more so. When Lin Ming had come to Blood Demon Island to rescue her, his figure as he stood atop that Vermillion Bird and the blood flowing from his spear light had already branded itself onto her heart, becoming an eternal part of her soul that she would never forget.

Joy, happiness, no regrets, if she could encompass all of these things within her feelings then what else was there to not be satisfied with?

To Lin Ming, when Mu Qianyu had crossed the destruction of Divine Phoenix Island and left behind her message at the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, this had left an unforgettable image on him.

That was the oath that Mu Qianyu had made on the edge of death.

As for Qin Xingxuan, she was the companion who had accompanied him ever since his adventure began in the Sky Fortune Kingdom.

She was like Lin Ming's young neighborhood girl love. When he was in Sky Fortune City, Qin Xingxuan and her master, Mister Muyi, had helped him a great deal. Lin Min and Qin Xingxuan had each seen the other's parents, and when Qin Xingxuan had lived with the Lin Family she had constantly accompanied Lin Mu. His parents already regarded Qin Xingxuan as their future daughter-in-law.

This sort of light and comfortable warmth was also a certain type of moving emotion. When Lin Ming was endlessly training himself and on the edge of collapse, he could use these warm and happy feelings to find peace of mind even in a realm of infinite slaughter.

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“Lin Ming, you still owe Xingxuan a wedding ceremony.” Mu Qianyu suddenly said. During this wedding ceremony the announcement had only included that Lin Ming and Mu Qianyu were to be married; it hadn’t included Qin Xingxuan.

Lin Ming silently nodded. He gazed at Qin Xingxuan for a long moment before his eyes turned back to Mu Qianyu, “Yu’er, are you sure that you don’t want to come to the Realm of the Gods with me?”

Because of the existence of that Ancient Phoenix Clan’s transmission array, it wasn’t necessary to break through to the Divine Sea to ascend to the Realm of the Gods. As long as Mu Qianyu desired it, she could also go to the Realm of the Gods together with Lin Ming.

Mu Qianyu shook her head.

If it wasn’t for the fact that Mu Qianyu and Qin Xingxuan both existed in his heart, Lin Ming would have already held a wedding ceremony much earlier. But, facing both Mu Qianyu and Qin Xingxuan together, Lin Ming was helpless as to who to hold the wedding ceremony with first.

Finally, Mu Qianyu had put forth that she wouldn’t follow Lin Ming into the Realm of the Gods in the future.

Mu Qianyu's parents had died soon after she was born. To her, Mu Yuhuang was no different from her true mother. Divine Phoenix Island held too great a significance to Mu Qianyu.

All of these things were difficult to give up. If she insisted on following Lin Ming then she would be willing to abandon everything she ever knew for him. However, Lin Ming also had Qin Xingxuan to accompany him upwards, and secondly, she didn't believe that she would be of any help to Lin Ming within the Realm of the Gods.

If that were the case, then it was better to stay in the Sky Spill Continent and raise their children, having Divine Phoenix Island become much more prosperous and magnificent, and have the Lin Family flourish like never before.

A family might not be a burden to a martial artist, but it was a sort of worry. After countless years passed, when their parents, wives, children, and children's children had all died, leaving them alone in the world, this type of desolate and lonely road of martial arts could easily lead to heart demons.

Moreover, a deep and true love to a martial artist was a nearly spiritual dependence. It wasn't like the pleasure of the flesh, something that they could easily let go.

Lin Ming didn't try persuading her anymore. Although returning to the lower realms from the Realm of the Gods was troublesome, it wasn't completely impossible. He could still meet with Mu Qianyu, and with his help it would be easy for her to reach the Divine Sea in the future. Then, she would have 10,000 years of life,

several tens of thousands years of life, or an even longer time than that. Such a long period of time was enough for him to reach the peak of martial artists. As for what would happen once he reached that point, who knew?

At this time, Qin Xingxuan slowly stood up and quietly withdrew, closing the door behind her. Since this was Mu Qianyu's wedding, she naturally had to let it take its most perfect course.

As Qin Xingxuan imagined herself taking care of Lin Ming in the future, her face flushed red. Although, two women waiting on a single man together was impossible for her...wasn't it? Before ascending to the Realm of the Gods, Qin Xingxuan didn't want to have more intimate contact with Lin Ming.

After the door closed, the atmosphere became ambiguous for a moment.

Large red decorations, red bedding, a large bed, a red curtain of silk; all of this left Mu Qianyu's beautiful face a deep red. She didn't dare to look up at Lin Ming, instead keeping her head down.

Lin Ming also felt a bit awkward. Before this, his contact with Mu Qianyu had been limited to kisses and hugs. Now facing such a passionate situation, a faint thrum of desire and anticipation beat in his heart.

The two sat on the bed, talking to each other for a long time. From their meeting at Thundercrash Mountain to the Seven Profound Valleys' Total Faction Martial Meeting. From Revered

Master Tianguang's birthday banquet to the adventure into the Demon God Imperial Palace, all the way to their reunion at Yin Yang Profound Palace and now finally arriving here at their own wedding.

During this conversation, Lin Ming had unconsciously held onto Mu Qianyu's hands and began to kiss her dewy lips.

The two took this time to roll on the bed. Then, Lin Ming gently untied Mu Qianyu's clothing, revealing her otherworldly body. Her body was completely exposed under the swaying candlelight of the night, a hazy layer of light seeming to caress her.

Mu Qianyu's cheeks turned bright red. She raised her pair of jade-like hands to cover her chest, her heart racing like a frantic drum.

Lin Ming held onto Mu Qianyu, kissing and stroking her warm and soft breasts. At this time, a fire began to blaze in Lin Ming's heart and he slowly separated her flawless legs.

Mu Qianyu's eyes were misty and her long eyelashes trembled as her entire being was immersed in a beautiful spring. It was like she couldn't distinguish between fantasy and illusion until a sharp pain suddenly awakened her from the evanescent dream. As she looked into the face of her most beloved man, she didn't know why, but two teardrops streamed down her face.

She was not bewitched by this love between women and men, but at this moment an everlasting mark had branded itself in her

heart. She completely melted into Lin Ming's body.

Happiness...

Satisfaction...

Euphoria...

Exhilaration...

Longing...

All of this mixed in with a slight, pleasantly aching pain, leaving her breathless with joy, unable to think or speak clearly...

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On the next morning, the sun had just risen and a light morning

mist enveloped the entirety of Divine Phoenix Island, leaving a thin layer of dew over the land.

Lin Ming woke up from his deep and fragrant sleep. As he saw Mu Qianyu snuggled up in his chest, his heart was filled with satisfaction.

Mu Qianyu was a light sleeper. By the time Lin Ming woke up, she had already been awake for a long time. It was just that she was drowning in her shy feelings and didn't want to open her eyes.

As Lin Ming looked at her, a childlike playfulness suddenly came over him. He began reaching for Mu Qianyu's sensitive parts and tickling her. How could Mu Qianyu stand this? She instantly grabbed his hand and jokingly admonished him, "Stop it you naughty boy!"

Lin Ming devilishly smiled. After that night of love, he could already be considered as having been captivated by these feelings.

"Mm, that's right, about that young woman you traded for the white jade key, what sort of special secret is on her? Why would you fight with Wang Yichan for her?"

Mu Qianyu quickly changed the topic as she saw that Lin Ming wanted to play more dirty tricks on her.

As this serious matter was brought up, Lin Ming became more solemn. "I'm not sure why Wang Yichan would fight me for her,

but the reason I exchanged the key for her was...”

Lin Ming didn't have any intention of hiding anything from Mu Qianyu. He completely told her of his experiences in the Eternal Demon Abyss. After hearing of this bizarre occurrence, Mu Qianyu was horrified. There was also this sort of matter?

“That's the reason I thought that young girl might be related to the goddess in the eternal Demon Abyss. Let's quickly go and visit her so we can ask her about her life and what the origin of that jade pendant is.”

“Alright, then I'll go together with you.” Mu Qianyu was about to stand up and put on her clothes, but as she noticed that Lin Ming's eyes were locked onto her body, she blushed a deep red and shyly said, “You put on your clothes and leave first.”

Chapter 759 – The Young Girl's Mystery, the Forsaken God Clan

The Eternal Demon Abyss held an infinite charm to the martial artists of the Holy Demon Continent. There were many Emperor powerhouses that would venture into the Eternal Demon Abyss when they lost all hope of making a breakthrough, in a desire to stumble upon a lucky chance within. And, the result was that none of them ever returned. Not even the number one powerhouse of the Holy Demon Continent was an exception.

Even so, many powerhouses held a lifelong desire to adventure into the Eternal Demon Abyss and explore the mysteries inside; this was because that land was far too mystical. There were powerful existences within the Eternal Demon Abyss that would shock anyone!

Lin Ming also had an endless interest in the Eternal Demon Abyss. Before, Lin Ming had also been filled with curiosity towards the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm and the Ancient Phoenix Clan. However, the mysteries of the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm had already been revealed.

Because there were far too many people within the Realm of the Gods, there were often branches of sects and families that would move into the lower realms. The branches of the Realm of the Gods' Phoenix Clan were also no exception; this was the origin of the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm.

But as for the Eternal Demon Abyss, Lin Ming felt that the land was simply covered by inscrutable mysteries.

He thought back to that massive God Beast in the 1000 mile forbidden zone whose body spanned thousands of miles, and he also thought back to the heart of that Great Emperor which had beat eternally for 100,000 years in the flawless corpse of the goddess that had existed in lifelike slumber for 100,000 years. If these things were truly left over by a side branch from the Realm of the Gods, then that was truly unbelievable.

Lin Ming suspected that perhaps the owner of that beating heart still existed in the Realm of the Gods, and might even be an existence who stood at the peak of martial arts. He might even be an existence that the Demon Emperor or the Sorcerer of the Southern Wilderness' Divine Kingdom could not hope to ever compare with.

Why would such a character appear in the Sky Spill Continent?

Why was his heart sealed within the goddess' body?

Was he dead? Or was he alive?

If that goddess was that Great Emperor's most important person, then why would he leave her alone in that lonely grave in the 1000 mile forbidden zone?

Lin Ming and Mu Qianyu made their way to that mysterious young girl's room. As they pushed the door open they saw that the young girl was dressed in fresh white clothes, her back facing them as she gazed out the window, her hair falling down her shoulders

like a cascading waterfall.

Beside the young girl, the bed was still neat and ordered as if she hadn't slept at all, instead having sat at the windowsill all night long.

As Mu Qianyu looked at this young girl's back, she felt an inexplicable pain fill her heart, "Miss, what's your name?"

The young girl turned to look at the two of them, her dark gray pupils flashing with a cold indifference. She didn't speak, instead completely ignoring Mu Qianyu's question.

"She seems to have sealed away her heart and trust in anyone. I have no idea just what she has experienced in her life." Mu Qianyu said to Lin Ming with a true essence sound transmission.

Lin Ming thought for a moment. If this were the case, then wanting to find out the truth of her life was impossible at this time.

Lin Ming traced his spatial ring and an azure jade pendant appeared in his hand.

"Miss, do you recognize this?"

As the young girl saw the jade pendant held high in Lin Ming's hand, a change finally occurred in her expression. She subconsciously traced her own chest, feeling that familiar warmth.

The jade pendant was still here... were there two jade pendants?

“You...” The young girl finally spoke. This was the first time that Lin Ming had heard her speak since he first saw her. Her voice was pleasant but had a very peculiar accent that followed it. “Where did your jade pendant come from?”

Lin Ming faintly smiled and put the jade pendant away, “Before I answer your question I need you to answer one of mine first. I would like to know about your life.”

The young girl hesitated for a moment, a flash of confusion passing through her dark gray pupils. Then, she whispered, “I... I am from the Forsaken God Clan...”

“Forsaken God Clan?” Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up, “Tell me more.”

“We are a cursed clan. We have no surname, no origin. The ancestors of my clan angered the gods and thus they were punished for their sins. Their sins have passed onto their descendants and now onto me. This tattoo seal on my face is the symbol of my cursed bloodline.”

“Curse? What curse?” Lin Ming had already noticed the strange tattoo seal on the young girl’s face. He had thought it was unusual but he never imagined that it was actually the manifestation of a curse.

“In my clan, right after birth, every span of time we are cursed to suffer an unendurable pain, a pain that torments us to our very marrow. This pain originates from the tattoo seal on our face. As we grow older, this excruciating outbreak will happen less and less, but the time for which it happens will become increasingly long, continuing until we die from pain or commit suicide.

“Only by practicing martial artists would we gain the strength and will of mind to endure and suppress this pain. However, what is sad is that no matter how talented the children of my clan are, they are unable to break free from the chains of their destiny. No matter how high their cultivation reaches, they will one day die to this blood curse.”

The young girl’s words were completely out of Lin Ming’s expectations. He originally thought that a clan related to the goddess of the Eternal Demon Abyss might be a great clan with a glorious and wonderful history. But, hearing the truth from this young girl’s mouth, she actually came from the Forsaken God Clan, every generation of her bloodline cursed to eternal torment!

Were they the descendants of the goddess? If so, then how could such a heaven-shaking and powerful goddess’ descendant have been reduced to such a pitiful state?

“Do you know who the ancestors of your clan are? Do they have names? What was their history like and how did they offend these so-called gods?”

The young girl shook her head. The past had been far too long ago and the truth of history had been buried in the endless river of time. It was simply impossible to discover the truth of ancient times. “The ancestors have only left us two binding words to guide us...”

“What are they?”

“Continue on!”

As Lin Ming heard these two simple words, he felt his mind shake. Such simple words passed down by these ancestors and yet they seemed to contain a compulsion, an unwillingness to submit. Continue on, continue on, continue on!

Lin Ming looked at this young girl once again, his heart filled with a new trace of awe and respect. This was a truly mysterious clan!

If they truly were the descendants of the goddess, then they had lived under the power of this bloodline curse for over 100,000 years!

Even if the history of their clan had been lost, or even if the glorious past of their clan was buried in the dust, that unyielding struggle with their destiny had engraved itself into their bones, becoming a continuing stubbornness that had followed that bloodline curse, forever running together, side by side!

Lin Min took a deep breath and said, “I also have another question. Why would Wang Yichan desire you?”

After Lin Ming asked this question, the young girl didn't reply. Instead, she looked at Lin Ming, her eyes solemn.

Lin Ming knowingly replied, “Alright, then I will answer your question first. My jade pendant came from an ancient tomb...” Lin Ming didn't describe the Eternal Demon Abyss too much. He only spoke of a forbidden zone and how he had chased a corpse devil to an ancient grave site. He completely revealed to this mysterious young girl of how he saw the goddess and heard her summoning call, and even about the existence of that Great Emperor's heart.

As the young girl heard this she was completely dazed.

She was unable to speak. All she felt was an inexplicable pain swell up in her chest, making it so that she nearly couldn't breathe. She didn't know why, but she felt a deep emotional pain.

Could that goddess in the coffin be the ancestor of her clan?

Just what sort of history had her clan borne? Why did she feel a deep grief from her very bloodline as she heard this story?

Lin Ming silently stood to the side, waiting for the young girl to finish her sentimental recollection and also waiting for her reply.

After a quarter hour, the young girl finally said, “The reason

Wang Yichan wants me is because of my bloodline seal...”

Bloodline seal?

Lin Ming’s mind stirred. He knew this phrase before from the memories of the Realm of the Gods’ Supreme Elders.

The so-called bloodline seal was a special bloodline ability passed down within clans. It was a sort of ability that was only inherited by direct descendants.

In a sense, the affinity with Fire Laws that the Ancient Phoenix Clan had could also be considered a type of bloodline seal. However, it just wasn’t special enough.

There were some families and clans that had extremely special bloodlines. For instance, Nether Eyes that could see through all ghosts and illusions, or specialized body transformation techniques that allowed one to willfully utilize every muscle in their body.

The young girl said, “My clan’s bloodline seal is an extremely special ability that only manifests in a very small minority of our descendants. And I am one of them. What I can use is a special force field called the Support Sphere.”

“Support Sphere?” Lin Ming’s eyebrows shot up. A domain ability?

“Some descendants of my clan can form a force field in an area,

increasing the combat strength of martial artists within. This increases a martial artist's regenerative ability, speed, defense, attack power, and can even enhance their will, soul force, and perception. As for my Support Sphere, I can use it to increase a martial artist's speed, attack strength, and will."

"I see!" Lin Ming was suddenly enlightened. This sort of ability was truly special. This young girl was able to enhance a martial artist's will, and the essence of a battle spirit was based on a martial artist's will. The stronger one's will, the stronger one's battle spirit. As for that Wang Yichan, he was originally someone who excelled in the aspect of will, so it was natural that he desired this young girl.

The young girl continued, "Wang Yichan captured me and tried to place spells in my spiritual sea. He tried slave seals and all sorts of other tricks. However, because of the special nature of my bloodline seal, everything he tried failed.

"He wanted me to quickly train until I reached a Revolving Core or Life Destruction cultivation and then I could become a great boost to him in battle. However, I was unwilling to become the pawn of others. In these last two years I refused to train at all. My cultivation did not increase even the smallest bit, and instead regressed. Then, Wang Yichan tried to ease the relations between us. He would have me at his side every day and care for me, protecting me, and declaring to all that I was his concubine in order to change my thoughts of him."

So that's what happened...

Lin Ming finally understood why this young girl had such a stalwart disposition. He guessed that Wang Yichan was also at his limit. If she were a support to him that he had already raised up, then he probably wouldn't have given her up no matter what.

“What's your name?”

The girl hesitated for a moment and then said, “Jue.”

A single name, meaning beautiful jade but with a decisive joining. It was mellow, soft, and yet staunch – fully in line with this young girl's character.

“How old are you?”

“Nineteen.”

“Nineteen...” Lin Ming was shocked. At nineteen years of age, she hadn't practiced for two whole years and yet was still at the late Houtian realm. If she did cultivate then she would have already broken through to the Xiantian realm by now. This young girl's talent was far better than what he had imagined it to be. If she had truly been willing to cooperate with Wang Yichan, then the power they could release together in the future would have been immeasurable.

Unfortunately, Lin Ming still hadn't managed to obtain any information from this young girl about the goddess that slept in her tomb.

To him, that goddess remained an eternal riddle.

Chapter 760 – Wood Spirit Jade

“Xingxuan, Yu’er.”

In Mu Qianyu’s bridal chamber, Lin Ming had called in Qin Xingxuan and Mu Qianyu. As the two young women sat shoulder to shoulder on the bed, their figures complimenting the red silk sheets was far too beautiful to behold.

Several months had passed since Lin Ming killed Xuan Wuji. Lin Ming had momentarily suspended his cultivating, spending a good period of his time meditating on the alchemy techniques left behind by the Realm of the Gods alchemist, as well as spending time with his parents and family. After his marriage with Mu Qianyu, Lin Ming’s thoughts had become bedeviled by the relations between men and women, and he had shared in these sensual pleasures with her every night.

“This is for you.” Lin Ming took out two square crystals from his spatial ring. Every crystal block had two drops of red liquid sealed within. These red drops looked thick and viscous, as if they were crimson pearls.

“What is that?” As Mu Qianyu saw these four drops of red liquid she felt her heart jump. She could clearly feel that there was something extraordinary about these red drops of liquid.

“This is the blood of the Ancient Phoenix.” Lin Ming said.

Hearing these words, Qin Xingxuan was already surprised to the

point of being spellbound. As for Mu Qianyu, her eyes were completely wide, a look of astonishment and disbelief coloring her face.

“Blood of the Ancient Phoenix? As in the Phoenix God Beast!?”

“Yes.”

When he was still at Timeworn Phoenix City, he had obtained a total of 110 drops of Ancient Phoenix blood. Of these, the first 100 were given to Lin Ming first and then directly absorbed by him.

The next 10 drops were only delivered to Lin Ming several days later. However, he didn't use them because the effects wouldn't be obvious for him anymore.

Thus, it was better for him to give Mu Qianyu and Qin Xingxuan two drops each so that this could greatly improve their physiques.

As for the remaining six drops, he intended to save those for emergencies. For instance, when Qin Xingxuan had exhausted her blood essence at Blood Demon Island, if it wasn't for Lin Ming coincidentally having Vermillion Bird blood essence with him, then Qin Xingxuan would have already perished.

“Lin Ming, where did you get this blood of the Ancient Phoenix?” Mu Qianyu asked, short of breath. She had only read of this blood of the Ancient Phoenix in the ancient texts of Divine Phoenix Island. Still, she had always thought that these were legends. She

never imagined that this sort of treasure actually existed in the Sky Spill Continent!

“At the king level smelting trial.”

“You participated in the king level smelting trial?” Mu Qianyu’s large eyes widened even further. When Lin Ming had told her about the smelting trial rules of the Divine Phoenix Mystic Realm, the king level smelting trial had been the highest level possible. And yet Lin Ming had actually completed it!

“Yes, this Ancient Phoenix blood is the reward of the smelting trial.”

“Then you should absorb it!” Qin Xingxuan suddenly said. Mu Qianyu also nodded. The effects of the blood would show their true potential under Lin Ming.

“I’ve already absorbed far too much; a few more drops won’t have much effect.” Lin Ming pointed at the flame mark between his eyebrows, “Don’t you feel it?”

Since Lin Ming first absorbed the blood of the Ancient Phoenix, a faint pressure had always emitted from his body, especially on those martial artists with the Vermillion Bird bloodline. However, Lin Ming normally suppressed this pressure and since his strength was already so formidable to begin with, everyone that was around him often enough became accustomed to it. Thus, Mu Qianyu hadn’t asked any questions.

As Mu Qianyu heard Lin Ming's words, she wasn't sure just what expression she should have. That blood of the Ancient Phoenix that was only depicted in the ancient texts of Divine Phoenix Island... Lin Ming had actually said that a few more drops wouldn't have any effects!?

As Lin Ming saw Mu Qianyu's thoughts written all over her face, he laughed and said, "Yu'er, in the Realm of the Gods a Phoenix might have a body that spans thousands of miles long. Who knows just how large it is. If all of its blood were taken out then it might be enough to drown a city. What I have here is only four drops, and it is also the most ordinary Phoenix blood; it's not as if it's blood essence or something like that. It's not as exaggerated as you think."

Hearing Lin Ming speak, Mu Qianyu didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. "This might not be much to you but it's a great lucky chance for me. My talent is at the peak of the Saint level and these two drops of Ancient Phoenix blood will be enough for me to enter the Emperor level.

"Don't speak of this Ancient Phoenix blood. In Divine Phoenix Island, even Vermillion Bird blood essence is enough to make others go crazy. They couldn't even imagine the blood of the Ancient Phoenix! With these two drops of Ancient Phoenix blood, that is enough for an ordinary talent to become a Saint level talent."

In terms of talent, it was easier to raise the more mundane one was. For an ordinary talent to become a Saint level talent, all they would need was a single great lucky chance. For instance, two

drops of Ancient Phoenix blood.

As for a Saint level talent rising to an Emperor level talent, that would require the accumulation of several lucky chances. In addition, a martial artist would also need to have extraordinary natural talent to begin with.

And above an Emperor level talent, if one wanted to rise to the ranks of Huo Wenlong and Huo Yu, that was even more difficult. At that time, something that might be a great lucky chance to a Saint level talent might only be standard treasure for someone like Huo Wenlong.

For instance, this Ancient Phoenix blood. To a talent like Huo Wenlong, this basically wasn't a great lucky chance because Huo Wenlong already had an extremely rich Ancient Phoenix bloodline to begin with. Thus, this was something that was basic for him and that he should naturally have. Conversely, it would be a disadvantage if he didn't.

So even if Lin Ming absorbed another 100 drops of Ancient Phoenix blood, this would only allow him to become a bit stronger. It wouldn't increase his talent to another level.

Lin Ming's comprehension of Fire Laws should have been something a genius of his talent level could accomplish. Otherwise, they were lacking to begin with.

"Yu'er, Xingxuan, I've already made an appointment with Li Yifeng to go to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. I leave one

month from now. During this journey, I might be gone for several years.”

Of the four Divine Kingdoms, the strongest was the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. They were also famed for their alchemy techniques. Since Lin Ming wished to study alchemy, it was naturally the best choice for him to go to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.

Alchemy was an extremely complex skill. In order to refine pills within a furnace it required more than just a variety of spiritual herbs and treasures. There were special materials needed to direct the mixture and also to form the medicinal base.

If he wanted to create high level pills, there was one material he absolutely couldn't do without. That was – wood spirit jade.

Wood spirit jade and Demon God Bones were similar items.

Demon God Bones were formed when the leftover energy field of powerhouses or Saint Beasts was sealed underground, slowly condensing over a period of tens of thousands of years.

As for wood spirit jade, those originated from spiritual woods and herbs that remained unpicked by others and eventually died a natural death. Then, their rich energy and fruits would be buried in the ground for tens or even hundreds of thousands of years before finally condensing into a wood spirit jade.

The former was an animal and the latter was a plant.

Both were formed through similar principles, but there was actually a big difference between the two.

Since Lin Ming wished to study alchemy he needed a massive amount of wood spirit jade. However, this sort of material was extremely difficult to find in the South Horizon Region. Although there was a great amount of wood spirit jade in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, it was collected by others as a rare resource. With Lin Ming's current finances, buying a small amount to use was no problem. But, if he wished to use a great amount, especially high quality wood spirit jade multiple times, then this was something that even Lin Ming's wealth couldn't support. Not to mention that he didn't have the wealth to support continued use, but the main problem was that wood spirit jade was a material that couldn't necessarily be bought.

Lin Ming had taken inventory of all his belongings. Up until now, the strongest powerhouse he killed was the fourth stage Life Destruction Xuan Wuji. As for the rest of his wealth, the next two with the most resources had been the two helpers of Xuan Wuji that had helped him lay down the great array formation in the deep sea as well as the South Sea Demon Region's Elders. All of these people added together had a wealth equal to that of Xuan Wuji.

In other words, Lin Ming was currently quite wealthy amongst high level Life Destruction powerhouses. However, he was far from being able to compare with a Divine Sea powerhouse.

Of course, this was assuming that Lin Ming didn't sell the heaven-step Demon God Bone or the blood of the Ancient Phoenix. These two treasures were naturally not something that Lin Ming would casually use.

If Lin Ming wanted to go to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom to find wood spirit jade, it would be impossible for him to purchase it with his wealth. And he couldn't purchase it to begin with since there was no place to do so.

So, Lin Ming could only rely on the rich knowledge inherited from that Realm of the Gods alchemist to seek wood spirit jade and excavate it on his own.

It wasn't an exaggeration to say that every alchemist could also be called a skilled geologist and explorer. In order to look for wood spirit jade, and especially high quality wood spirit jade, one would often have to search hundreds or even thousands of feet underground. A martial artist's perception had problems penetrating underground to begin with, much less the fact that the regions where wood spirit jade existed often had special geological features that interfered with perception.

With these factors combined, an alchemist could only rely on their experience and knowledge to search for wood spirit jade.

For the remaining month, Lin Ming closed up to thoroughly research alchemy techniques. Although the memories of that Realm of the Gods alchemist had been completely etched into his mind, integrating and mastering this information was still a very long and arduous process.

During his research of alchemy techniques, when his mind was fatigued, Lin Ming would take out a Demon God Bone and continue training. After some time, Lin Ming had already gone from the early Revolving Core realm to stabilizing himself firmly in the center.

However, he still had a very long road until he reached the Life Destruction realm.

From Revolving Core to Life Destruction could be considered a large boundary. To a human martial artist, this was the process of their body being transformed and reborn into something new.

Before Life Destruction, that was a mortal body.

After Life Destruction, that was a spirit body.

This sort of transformative process was completely different from the body transformation process of washing the marrow and tempering the body.

Once body transformation was brought to the point of 100% Tempering Marrow with the Eight Inner Hidden Gates opened and the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace afterwards, then a martial artist would have a body comparable to a Saint artifact, indestructible and invincible. They could raise their hand to sink the stars and shatter the moon and their roar could kill weaker martial artists.

A spirit body was different. Even though it was a spirit body, the defensive power was still frail and without the protection of true essence it would easily be pierced through by weapons.

The role of the spirit body was to converge the origin energy of the heavens and earth. A Revolving Core realm martial artist could only store true essence in their dantian and meridians. It was also impossible for them to directly absorb heaven and earth origin energy with their bodies. Rather, they had to rely on their many acupoints.

But after Life Destruction, that mortal body would reform from scratch, expelling all impurities and activating every cell so that they could actively absorb heaven and earth origin energy.

Thus, a martial artist with a spirit body completely didn't need acupoints and could use their bodies to absorb heaven and earth origin energy. This meant that a Life Destruction martial artist would have a total true essence quantity several times that of a Revolving Core martial artist. Even their resilience and endurance would greatly increase.

This was also the reason why a Life Destruction martial artist's strength leapt upwards.

If Lin Ming could reach Life Destruction, then not only would he have a spirit body, but he would also be tempered with the Eight Inner Hidden Gates and have a bodily durability equal to that of a treasure. To have both of these benefits was the advantage of dual cultivating in body and essence.

Without noticing, until up the day that Lin Ming and Li Yifeng's agreed appointment was, Lin Ming still didn't have an understanding of the four Divine Kingdoms. In fact, he didn't even know all of the four Divine Kingdoms' names. To have a guide was wonderful. Not to mention anything else, but there was a trip of millions upon millions of miles to go from Divine Phoenix Island to the four Divine Kingdoms, and there were hundreds of large and small transmission arrays that had to be passed through. Without Li Yifeng's help, passing through these transmission arrays wouldn't be easy.

Chapter 761 – Towards the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom

In the early morning, the sun had not yet risen and Divine Phoenix Island was enveloped in a thin morning mist. Lin Ming bid his farewell to his parents, Qin Xingxuan, and Mu Qianyu, then he brought Demonshine along with him as he followed Li Yifeng and his entourage out towards the four Divine Kingdoms.

In Li Yifeng's group of four, there was Qing'er and the quiet young nun that Lin Ming had seen before, as well as an unusually pretty young boy who wore all white.

This beautiful youth was like Li Yifeng and both of them favored folding fans. However, with just a glance at this youth's pale face, delicate hands, and lack of an adam's apple, it was obvious that this was a woman dressed up as a man.

"You're already acquainted with Qing'er, Brother Lin. As for this young nun, her Buddhist name is Jingchan, and this young sir here is Sir Murong." Li Yifeng introduced Lin Ming to his companions. He grinned as he heavily accentuated the words 'Sir Murong', causing that 'beautiful young man' to squint her eyes.

Lin Ming thought this was funny. In truth, once a martial artist reached a certain boundary it was extremely easy to distinguish between men and women, much less even mortal commoners could tell that this 'Sir Murong' was a girl. Unless one had extremely skillful appearance changing techniques it was near impossible to fool others. Since this 'Sir Murong' knew all this perfectly well but still dressed as a man, the only explanation was

that she liked this sort of dressing up.

It wasn't strange for extraordinary young elites to have unusual hobbies like this.

Lin Ming didn't bother ruining her fun. He cupped his hands across his chest and said, "Young Master Jingyuan, Sir Murong, well met."

Seeing Lin Ming being so respectful, Sir Murong actually had a rare favorable impression of Lin Ming and cupped her hands in return. As for Jingyuan, she gathered her hands together and spoke some Buddhist sutras.

"Brother Lin, during this journey to the four Divine Kingdoms we will have to travel several million miles. First we'll go north to the Great Zen Region and then enter the River Region and from there we can go to the Profound Canary Province... although most of this journey will be made through transmission arrays, we'll still have to spend a month or two in my spirit boat. During this time, Brother Lin may feel free to do as you wish. You can enjoy the scenery or you can close up in training."

Li Yifeng's spirit boat was 10 times larger than a normal spirit boat and the interior was lavishly decorated. The tables and chairs were all made of spirit wood and the floors and beds were all covered with rare and precious beast skins. Every room gave off an atmosphere of opulence and grace. It was apparent that Li Yifeng had spent a great deal of time and effort on this spirit boat.

“Brother Li, is your Seven Star Divine Kingdom a great distance away from the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom?”

These past days, Lin Ming had also asked about the basic situation of the four Divine Kingdoms. The four Divine Kingdoms were divided into the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom, Asura Divine Kingdom, and Seven Star Divine Kingdom.

These four great Divine Kingdoms held over a dozen well known and famous Emperor powerhouses. In addition to all those other Emperor level powerhouses that remained hidden in the world, every Divine Kingdom had nearly 10 Emperor level powerhouses, or perhaps even more.

Of the four Divine Kingdoms, the strongest was the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. The Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was famed for its alchemy techniques and the entire country was rich in wood spirit jade and all sorts of heavenly materials that were useful for alchemy. It wasn't an exaggeration to say that nearly every martial artist within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was familiar with alchemy. Even if they weren't an alchemist they would still have some superficial knowledge of alchemy.

Second to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was the Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom; they were famous for their refining techniques and their lands held all sort of deposits of precious metals and minerals. Within the Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom, nine out of 10 martial artists were refining masters. Nearly every inherited heaven-step treasure of the Sky Spill Continent that didn't originate from ancient times came from the

Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom.

Coming in third was the Asura Divine Kingdom. They were a relatively isolated and independent Divine Kingdom. Although they were far weaker than the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom and the Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom, this was mainly due to the fact that there weren't any special resources located within their borders. The Asura Divine Kingdom was a land of mostly demonic path martial artists and the social customs within were considered quite barbaric. In fact, publicly killing someone on the streets couldn't be considered uncommon or exciting.

And last of all was the Seven Star Divine Kingdom. They too didn't have any special resources, causing the development of their Divine Kingdom to be greatly limited. The Seven Star Divine Kingdom was well known for their array formations, but no matter how strong array formations were, they were still auxiliary skills. In terms of enhancing a martial artist's cultivation, they were naturally inferior to the mass production capabilities of alchemical techniques.

"Brother Lin wishes to go to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom?" Li Yifeng wasn't too surprised to hear of Lin Ming's request. The Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was known as a land with abundant treasures and lucky chances around every corner. Every year, a massive number of martial artists would sojourn to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom in hopes that they would stumble upon some divine heavenly treasure that would allow them to ascend into glory with a single leap. However, the areas that were fraught with lucky chances were all under strict control; Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom wouldn't easily allow outsiders to obtain them.

Even so, a great number martial artists still came to experience the varied martial Holy Lands of the Sky Spill Continent.

“That’s the plan. I want to go to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom to look for some wood spirit jade.” Lin Ming honestly said. There wasn’t anything to hide and if he spoke with Li Yifeng, perhaps this Prince might even know some channels he could access.

“Wood spirit jade?” After Li Yifeng heard this his eyes brightened, “So Brother Lin was also a lover of jade, hm!”

Li Yifeng said. Then, he swiped his spatial ring and took out a foot long wooden square box. As he opened this box, a very light but pure wood origin energy suddenly emerged. As Lin Ming peered within, he could see four pieces of rough-looking irregularly-shaped green stone. They seemed to be uncarved jade stones; without a doubt, these were wood spirit jades.

In addition, beside these four rough pieces of wood spirit jade was also an exquisitely carved jade horse. The material used to create this was also wood spirit jade.

“A jade horse carved from wood spirit jade?”

Lin Ming was startled. Within the memories of the Realm of the Gods’ Supreme Elders, there were many recollections of wood spirit jade carvings, accessories, utensils, and so forth. Lin Ming had only glanced over these things. After all, these sorts of artistic treasures didn’t have much use in one’s martial arts cultivation.

What he cared about had only been alchemical techniques from the Realm of the Gods.

He never thought that the wood spirit jade carvings within the Realm of the Gods would also exist in the Sky Spill Continent.

“Haha, this jade horse of mine is quite good, right? I spent a sky high price to win this at an auction. This is an ancient treasure carved by an expert from 10,000 years ago!”

Li Yifeng puffed up, full of pride and wanting to show off to Lin Ming. He obviously held an inordinate amount of love for this jade carving.

But at this moment, a discordant voice suddenly stuck its foot in, “Li Yifeng, I can’t believe you used a great amount of the Divine Kingdom’s spirit essence stones to secretly buy a wood spirit jade horse! I will report this matter to Sir Shangchen!”

Lin Ming looked up, seeing that the one snappily speaking was that ‘Sir Murong’. He couldn’t help but chuckle in his heart. A spirit essence stone was a type of spirit stone even better than true essence stones for cultivation. A low-grade spirit essence stone’s value was about approximate to a top quality true essence stone.

Li Yifeng’s smile froze on his face, “You fake Murong tomboy! If you mess with me I’ll bring you down with me!”

“Humph, the spirit essence stones that Sir Shangchen gave you

were for you to cultivate, not for you to buy toys!” Murong argued back.

“Who said that wood spirit jade can’t be used for training? A wood spirit jade carving is certainly expensive as an accessory, but it also has the effect of enhancing the soul. The further one’s cultivation is the more important the role of the soul is! Someone like you simply couldn’t understand this!”

What Li Yifeng said was quite true; wood spirit jade was indeed a good material for enhancing the soul.

Besides being used in alchemy, wood spirit jade could also be absorbed by a martial artist for training. However, because wood spirit jade was based in wood origin energy, only a wood-attribute martial artist could use it. Otherwise, using wood spirit jade for training would simply be a waste.

Even if one didn’t understand alchemy, a martial artist that wasn’t lucky enough to be of the wood attribute could also carry around the wood spirit jade by their side. Gradually, the rich wood origin energy of the wood spirit jade would permeate into the martial artist and nourish their soul.

However, wood spirit jade in its most basic form was rough and craggy; there were many people that didn’t feel too well carrying something so ugly and unbeautiful by their side all the time. Thus, the skill of carving wood spirit jade slowly spread, and the art of carving this material became increasingly refined and elegant. Now, there were even some martial artists that carried around wood spirit jade carvings to accessorize, not even purchasing them

with the intention of helping to nourish their soul.

“Stop with your loquacious sophistry. If you wanted to help nourish your soul then carrying around a piece of uncut wood spirit jade would be just the same, you don’t need to carry around such an expensive jade horse. I will make sure to report this matter to your superiors.” Murong said with a haughty indifference, a serious light on her face.

“Peh, whatever, I’m too lazy to bother with you...” Li Yifeng had a look that he didn’t want to waste his time arguing. Then, he suddenly swiveled around towards Lin Ming, his eyes lighting up, “Haha, Brother Lin, if you like wood spirit jade then let me take you to some famous city squares that specialize in wood spirit jade later so you can open your eyes!”

Li Yifeng obviously held a great understanding of the wood spirit jade market, and immediately began speaking to Lin Ming of several vast wood spirit jade city squares, detailing the advantages and disadvantages of each one. Then, after making great flourishing motions about everything, he finally circled back to his own beloved jade horse.

“Look at this jade horse. The exquisite carving details stem from the hands of a carving grandmaster called Xuan Can. As for the jade, it comes from 250,000 year old ancient river wood spirit jade!”

The older wood spirit jade was, the higher quality it would be and the more expensive it would be. Wood spirit jade had a special characteristic; it was able to independently absorb wood origin

energy from the heaven and earth origin energy of the world and use this energy to vitalize itself. Thus, although wood spirit jade would slowly lose some of its origin energy over time, this rate was drastically slowed due to its ability to supplement itself. In addition, as more time went on, the wood origin energy within the wood spirit jade would become increasingly pure in quality.

Lin Ming didn't care who this Xuan Can was, nor did he have any interest in ancient river wood spirit jade. But, what he could confirm was that this carved jade horse in Li Yifeng's hands was at most 120,000 to 130,000 years old.

It seemed that Li Yifeng had been suckered by someone.

The truth was that being tricked like this was also normal. It was very difficult to judge the age of wood spirit jade, and even experienced alchemists would make mistakes. The general population probably wouldn't even be able to distinguish between true and fake wood spirit jade. There were experts out there that could use wood-attribute spirit essence stones and some wood spirit jade powder to create fake wood spirit jade that was nearly impossible to distinguish from the real thing.

"Brother Li, could I have those raw wood spirit jade ores?" Lin Ming had no intention of revealing to Li Yifeng that he had been scammed. After all, it was fine as long as he was happy about his purchase, and Li Yifeng might not believe him to begin with.

The reason Lin Ming asked for these raw stones was because he wanted to try his hand at alchemy. He had already studied alchemy techniques for a very long time, and besides trying low level

recipes that didn't require wood spirit jade, Lin Ming hadn't yet tried to refine a high level pill.

“Brother Lin wants this raw ore? No problem!” Li Yifeng readily nodded. He liked wood spirit jade, but that was only wood spirit jade carvings. As for that ore, in Li Yifeng's eyes it was no different to spirit essence stones.

Chapter 762 – White Dragon Jade Row

“Thanks. What is the price on this ore? I’ll give you the equivalent market price amount.” Although Lin Ming had planned on searching for wood spirit jade, the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was still an extremely vast region. Moreover, many wood spirit jade-rich locales had been locked up by the authority of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. If he wanted to search for his own wood spirit jade then he would need a massive amount of time. If so, then it was best for him to buy as much as he could with his current wealth.

“Brother Lin couldn’t be planning on studying alchemical techniques, right?” Li Yifeng saw that Lin Ming wasn’t a wood-attribute martial artist, then the more likely reason he would want wood spirit jade like this would be to practice alchemy techniques. Normally, once a martial artist reached a certain boundary, it was common for them to study several auxiliary skills in order to help temper their soul. For instance, Li Yifeng himself studied array formations.

“That is my intention.”

Li Yifeng whistled, “Whew, Brother Lin, you just started studying alchemy techniques and you already want to use wood spirit jade?”

Lin Ming laughed out loud, not explaining further.

He understood what Li Yifeng was trying to say. After all, he was

only 21 years old so he couldn't possibly have studied alchemy techniques for too long. And, something like alchemy required the accumulation of experience and repeated failures. A newcomer to alchemy would have a very low chance of success, and wanting to practice creating high level medicines was simply a pipedream. And with wood spirit jade being so rare and valuable, using it to train up one's skill was simply far too luxurious.

How could Li Yifeng have known that Lin Ming had inherited the complete memories of a Realm of the Gods alchemist? These memories included alchemy skills, experiences, and all sorts of recipes. Lin Ming had already thoroughly integrated most of this knowledge together, and now his success rate for creating low level medicines was already very high.

But in that Realm of the Gods Supreme Elder's memories, there were far too few recipes that didn't require wood spirit jade.

"Brother Lin, if you wish to try, then I can gift you a piece." There were pieces of wood spirit jade ore. Although they weren't low in value, Li Yifeng was still able to give out a piece of two.

"We'll go with the market price." Lin Ming didn't want to owe favors to anyone.

The two of them pushed back and forth for a bit, and finally, Li Yifeng listed the price for the four pieces of wood spirit jade. As Lin Ming heard this, he was actually shocked. Altogether, these four pieces of wood spirit jade were 600 spirit essence stones.

A low-grade spirit essence stone's value was equivalent to a top grade true essence stone's, which was the same as over a million low-grade true essence stones.

600 spirit essence stones were worth more than 600,000,000 low-grade true essence stones. When Lin Ming had dug up the buried treasure of the third-grade Moon Seizing Sect, besides some pills and 12 Shattered Heart Demon Crystals, there were also around 7000 to 8000 medium-grade true essence stones. If those were all traded in, that wasn't even enough for one million true essence stones.

The entire buried treasure deposit of a third-grade sect wouldn't even be enough to buy a small lump of wood spirit jade. Lin Ming also estimated that Li Yifeng was quoting him a price on the lower end. To a character like Li Yifeng, not to mention a low-grade spirit essence stone, but perhaps even a medium-grade spirit essence stone didn't mean much to him.

Like this, 600 top grade true essence stones disappeared. Not accounting for the treasures that Lin Ming hadn't exchanged for spirit essence stones yet, Xuan Wuji's wealth had shrunk by 10%.

If things continued at this pace, then Lin Ming would be broke in no time.

'Do I really have to sell that heaven-step Demon God Bone?'

As Lin Ming thought about this, he walked into his own room and began to start his first alchemical recipe using wood spirit

jade.

The memories of that Realm of the Gods alchemist had been extremely complete without many holes. His skill, technique, and experience in alchemy had been incomparably profound and complex, far more complex than the inscription techniques Lin Ming had learnt before. If it wasn't for the fact that Lin Ming's cultivation had rapidly risen since then, wanting to study these alchemy techniques would have been nothing but a dream within a dream.

It required a massive amount of resources to raise an alchemist. The reason that nearly all of the alchemists in the entire Sky Spill Continent were concentrated in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was that they had adequate resources.

In other words, they were filthy, disgustingly, sickeningly rich.

And putting aside the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdoms, the other three Divine Kingdoms probably couldn't produce a top class alchemist. This was because the consumption of resources was too high; the gains weren't equal to the losses. Also, their alchemy technique inheritance was far too lacking.

But for Lin Ming the alchemy techniques he studied were on an unbelievably higher level than what any alchemist grandmaster of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom could ever hope to reach.

If it were said that the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom needed to use 100 jin of wood spirit jade to train an alchemist grandmaster,

then for Lin Ming to study alchemy by himself might require several thousand jin of wood spirit jade.

This estimate already included the fact that Lin Ming had inherited the foundation of Realm of the Gods' alchemical techniques as well as an immeasurable amount of experience.

What he wished to refine was miracle medicines capable of opening the Eight Inner Hidden Gates and the Nine Stars of the Dao Palace. The lowest level materials for these types of medicines would be ingredients like the profound gold divine fruit and other such heavenly materials. As for the requirements of wood spirit jade, not only did he need quantity but he also needed quality. In the memories of the Realm of the Gods Supreme Elder, top medicines frequently required top quality wood spirit jade that was aged for several million years, or even tens of millions of years.

This had already surpassed the understanding of any alchemist within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.

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A month later, Lin Ming and the group made their way through countless large and small transmission arrays, finally arriving at the central region of the Sky Spill Continent. As Lin Ming looked down from his spirit boat, he saw that right beneath him was actually a vast and desolate desert.

“Are we close to the four Divine Kingdoms?” Lin Ming asked, a bit stunned. In his imagination, the four Divine Kingdoms were

incomparably lively lands with grand Holy Lands everywhere. But currently, they had been flying through a seemingly endless desert for days now. And before this desert there had been nothing but more deserts upon deserts.

“Haha, we are indeed, we’re almost at the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.” Li Yifeng had already guessed what Lin Ming was thinking. He continued, “Don’t look down on this desert below us. This area is called the Thatch Region. West of here is the Northwest Great Desert, which is also Wang Yichan’s domain. The Thatch Region is a place where good and bad exist, with bandits and desert pirates everywhere. The reason for this is because there is wood spirit jade produced here, and this area also isn’t under the jurisdiction of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.”

“I see!” Lin Ming was suddenly enlightened. Hundreds of thousands of years ago, or perhaps even millions of years ago, this desert beneath them had once been a great and lush forest with incomparably rich origin energy and all sorts of heavenly materials growing within. However, because of various geological changes, the spirit veins had withered away and the forest had eventually turned into a desert. The spirit trees and spirit plants had also been buried underground over the passage of time, slowly becoming a land filled with buried wood spirit jade.

Li Yifeng sighed as he reminisced over the past, “For this desert, there have been countless wars fought with rivers of endless blood flowing over the land. Ultimately, no one was able to take sole control of this land and thus it became a free land where all the major powers entrenched themselves. There are also a great number of wood spirit jade transaction sites here with all sorts of wood spirit jade carvings and accessories. These items change

hands all the time; that is, this place is a sinkhole for a massive amount of spirit essence stones!”

Wood spirit carvings and accessories had to have a history of several thousand years as well as stemming from the hands of a famous craftsman in order to earn the recognition of being called an ancient jade treasure by someone like Li Yifeng.

The Realm of the Gods alchemist had several memories related to these things. In fact, that alchemist had actually been a wood spirit jade carving grandmaster. Carving wood spirit jade was also a method for alchemists to exercise their focus and precision, helping them in a small way to temper and perfect their own soul.

That Realm of the Gods alchemist had also collected a massive amount of ancient carvings and accessories. Of course, these treasures had a history of at least 60,000 to 70,000 years, with some being hundreds of thousands or even millions of years old. It was far from anything that the Sky Spill Continent could compare with.

“Brother Lin, I’ll take you to a place today. This is a good place, with far too many good things inside! I will take you to open your eyes!” As Li Yifeng spoke of that place his eyes began to fill with excitement.

“Okay.” What Lin Ming needed the most now was wood spirit jade. He certainly wouldn’t refuse going to such a place.

“That’s right, don’t tell that Murong about this, it will just be us

two brothers going. That Murong is really about to pester me to death.” Li Yifeng’s words held a very familiar tone to them. Martial artists would generally refer to each other as ‘brothers’ as a sign of politeness, but this Li Yifeng seemed to treat Lin Ming as if they were really brothers.

A day later, Li Yifeng’s spirit boat stopped at a small city in the desert. After no resting well for an entire month, he decided to have a good night’s rest here and also search for a chance to throw off that annoying Murong. Li Yifeng brought Lin Ming and Qing’er to make seven or eight circles around the entire city before finally coming upon a humble and common-looking stone building.

From the outside, this stone building didn’t have a single sign. There were only four words written above the building door – White Dragon Jade Row.

After entering the stone house, Lin Ming finally realized that there was something peculiar going on here. The interior space was much larger than he had imagined, and the furnishings were a bit... crude. Everything seemed to be formed from the rough rocks of the desert. The stone tables and stone chairs seemed to be hewn apart by a saber without even being polished down.

At the side of the room was a stone table with some tea set aside for guests. And on the other side of the room were rows upon rows of wooden shelves. Every shelf had a variety of jade carvings and accessories placed upon it, ranging from as high as a foot to as small as a ring. The collection of items was dazzling and diverse.

In front of these shelves was a middle-aged man wearing a

leather hat. The man had a sturdy build and there was a thick scar on his face. It was unknown just what sort of beast skin his clothes were made from, but his collar was opened wide and his sleeves were far shorter than his arms. His clothes had heavy-looking metal buttons on them, each of them as large as a baby's fist.

This sort of clothing had a very rugged and barbaric flavor to it; it matched very well to the desert around them.

As the scarred man saw Li Yifeng approach, he immediately smiled in welcome, "Sir Li! No wonder I heard that lucky magpie call from the gates earlier; it seems that I have honored guests visiting today." The scarred man looked rough and cumbersome but his mouth was thick with honey – it was obvious he was skilled at kissing ass. Then he took on a tone of business and asked, "Is Sir Li here to buy something today? We have just unearthed a pair of ancient bracelets, would Sir Li like to take a look at them?"

Hearing the scarred man's attentive introduction, Li Yifeng's eyes brightened. His interest had really been stirred up. "Good, let's take a look."

Just as Li Yifeng's voice fell, another group of people walked in from outside. The man in the lead wore a yellow embroidered dragon robe and he had a pair of green balls in his hands that he was constantly rubbing together.

These balls were actually made from wood spirit jade.

"Isn't that the great Sir Li? Hahaha, I never thought that I would

stumble into you here at the White Dragon Jade Row. This is truly serendipity. Are Sir Li's hands itchy and wanting to buy some little souvenirs from here?" The yellow dragon-robed man faintly smiled. From the tone of his voice he obviously came from some great and influential power.

Li Yifeng frowned as he saw this man arrive. It was obvious that he and this man were not on friendly terms.

Chapter 763 – How To Make Money

This yellow dragon-robed man was Zhou Kun, the second son of Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom's Iron Wood High Prince. At one point, he had been a powerful candidate to be the successor to the Iron Wood High Prince.

Within the Divine Kingdoms, the successor of the High Princes were decided in a different method from in the mortal countries. In those mortal counties, they took the eldest son of the wife as the successor. However, in the four Divine Kingdoms, the title of successor belonged to whoever had the greatest degree of talent.

A few years ago, Zhou Kun had a very strong limelight on him. But after struggling to become the successor, he finally lost to his younger fourth brother. Since then, he had been keep a very low key presence and had rarely been seen in public.

In terms of status, Zhou Kun was naturally far inferior to Li Yifeng. Although the Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom's national strength was far higher than the Seven Star Divine Kingdom's, Zhou Kun was only a failed son who couldn't even become the successor to the High Prince. As for Li Yifeng, he was a true Prince of the Seven Star Divine Kingdom, so he was by far higher ranked than Zhou Kun.

Although his status was not comparable to Li Yifeng's, Zhou Kun had no intention showing Li Yifeng due respect. When both of them were in their youth they had entered into a mystic realm together. Because they stumbled upon the same lucky chance at the same time, they had engaged in a brutal battle with each other.

From that point on, that enmity had continued all the way to now.

Zhou Kun also loved collecting wood spirit jade carvings. Since he often came to White Dragon Jade Row to purchase items, it was normal for him to bump into Li Yifeng here.

“Hehe Brother Li, how come I don’t see your future imperial consort, ‘Sir’ Murong? I heard that ‘Sir’ Murong has been keeping a tight rein on you. After coming to this White Dragon Jade Row, aren’t you afraid that ‘Sir’ Murong will complain about you? I wonder if Brother Li will be punished to sit on the naughty chair and face the wall to reflect on your faults?”

As Lin Ming listened to Zhou Kun’s words, it was obvious that he knew that the crossdressing Miss Murong was actually Li Yifeng’s future wife. But as for Zhou Kun, he lingered on the word ‘Sir’ every time, obviously mocking Li Yifeng’s future wife’s strange choice of clothing.

Just as Zhou Kun finished speaking to Li Yifeng, Qing’er finally became angry, “Zhou Kun, have you taken the wrong medicine today? I heard that ever since you lost the position of successor you’ve devolved into a rabid dog that’s been biting whoever he sees. It’s none of your business what my family’s Big Sister Murong does or where she goes!”

Qing’er was an unruly smart mouth to begin with. While she acted like a proper girl in front of Li Yifeng, she was still not willing to eat a loss from others and the words that came tumbling out of her mouth after spoke could be especially poisonous.

Zhou Kun originally wanted to say more but his mouth was directly plugged up by Qing'er's words. What she said had truly stuck at all his sore points, pointing out all his flaws. In his entire life, being defeated in the battle to become successor was his life's greatest setback and frustration.

Zhou Kun's complexion sank and he coldly humphed, no longer saying anything further. It wasn't that he was afraid of Qing'er but he was only disinclined to argue with a mere maid. If they truly began to verbally spar then Qing'er's reputation wouldn't matter but his own would suffer.

At this time, the scarred man stepped in between them as a mediator. "Fellow sirs and misses, everyone here are high level characters of the four Divine Kingdoms. Let's all take a step back and enjoy the brighter future together!"

The scarred man laughed. He was also taking particular notice to this quarrel. If two guests fought with each other then it would be helpful to him for raising prices. But, if this tussle went too far off the ledge and no one gave each other face, then he definitely wouldn't benefit here.

"That's right Knifescar, I heard that you just said there was some good stuff a while ago. Hurry up and let me have a look!" Zhou Kun impatiently said as he waved his hand. Qing'er's words right now had made him feel very uncomfortable.

"Great! Fellow sirs and ladies, please enjoy and take a look

around first!” The big fellow Knifescar respectfully said to Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun. However, he didn’t bother paying attention to Lin Ming or Zhou Kun’s entourage. It was obvious that he regarded Lin Ming as one of Li Yifeng’s followers.

“Everyone feel free to look. Every item has a number beneath it and a corresponding price in this jade slip.” The big fellow Knifescar said as he waved a jade slip in his hands. In Jade Row, the private price was not made public. If a curious visitor came in to just take a look then the manager wouldn’t even bother telling them the price or would make up a sky high price to drive them away. It was only when a true customer came in that the manager here would write out the true price from the jade slip and give it to the customer.

“Brother Lin, let’s just take a look around. Most of the things here are fake, so if you’re thinking of buying something it’s best that you don’t, lest you suffer a loss.”

“Fake?” Lin Ming asked, stunned.

“Yes. These are the unspoken rules of the Jade Row. In the Jade Row, there are seven fake items to every three real items. And sometimes there are even nine fake items to every one real item. If you were to go outside and take a look in the stalls instead then perhaps every item there might be fake. If you really want to ensure that what you buy is real then you can only go to a great auction house. But, the price at a great auction house would be much more expensive than here!”

So that’s how it was... Lin Ming was speechless. He never

thought that even though the Sky Spill Continent and the Realm of the Gods were two completely different levels of existence, there was an astonishing number of similarities. In the Realm of the Gods, most of the wood spirit jade carvings were fakes. If one wanted to buy a true wood spirit jade carving then they could go to an auction house, but the price would simply be too high. Thus, many people were willing to go to shops to gamble their luck to make purchases, willing to accept the repeated losses.

The rules of the Jade Row were that all purchases were willing; if someone bought a fake item they could only blame themselves.

Li Yifeng sighed and shook his head, “These old things are sold at astronomical prices and the profits are corresponding highly. But, the fact is that these imitation goods aren’t cheap either. If I can’t look past them to see if they are real or fake, then all I can do is blame my own sight. Several years ago I bought a wood spirit jade folding screen. I thought it was the work of a grandmaster call Xuan Jiong from 20,000 years ago, but the reality was that I tricked myself. Because of this I was forced to face a wall in confinement for an entire year, so that Zhou Kun is only using this matter to insult me.”

As Li Yifeng spoke, he also used his perception to carefully examine the wood spirit jade carvings. One of the special features of wood spirit jade was that it was able to shield against perception. Even a Divine Sea Supreme Elder could give up any idea of piercing through wood spirit jade by even a half inch with their perception.

Li Yifeng released his perception. He was only able to casually

touch the surface of the wood spirit jade and feel through the its texture, luster, and quality of the years. In addition, he also scrutinized the engraving style and painting style of the wood spirit jade. Every grandmaster had their own unique style that they applied to their works. But, there were also no lack of imitation masters, so identifying the truth was easier said than done.

Li Yifeng had played around with wood spirit jade carvings for several years so he had a great deal of experience in these matters. As he examined these works he also explained to Lin Ming on the side, “After a wood spirit jade has been carved, it will absorb wood-attribute origin energy every year and slowly form a fine hair-like texture on the surface. This texture is extremely difficult to sense... and there are even some supremely skilled experts that can reproduce this texture – these people are usually wood-attribute martial artists. They can use the wood-attribute energy within their own bodies and leave behind a similar fine hair-like structure on the wood spirit jade, to the point where even a master can’t distinguish between that and the real deal. For instance, this dragon carving... I’ve come to see it several times already and yet I just can’t make up my mind about it...”

As Li Yifeng said this, he bitterly placed the dragon carving back on the shelf. As Lin Ming saw Li Yifeng’s appearance, he couldn’t help but ask, “How many spirit essence stones is this dragon carving?”

“3300!” Li Yifeng let out in a single long breath. Even though if Li Yifeng could burden such a price, he still felt pained in the flesh to do so.

“So expensive!” Lin Ming gulped. After Xuan Wuji died he had left behind around 6000 top grade true essence stones. In addition to all the other treasures combined, if they were completely reduced into top grade true essence stones that would still only be around 20,000-30,000. If he were to use all that wealth to buy this carved dragon, then he would go broke once he bought seven or eight of them!

This was the entire wealth of a fifth-grade sect’s ruler.

Compared to the four Divine Kingdoms, the South Horizon Region truly was some remote backcountry.

As Lin Ming thought of this, an idea suddenly popped up in his mind. He asked Li Yifeng, “How about at an auction house? If this dragon carving were to be auctioned off, how much would it sell for?”

“A bit more than this.” Li Yifeng extended five long fingers.

“5000?”

“Yup! You could auction it for around 1700 more than this price, and after deducting the different auction house fees you’ll still have around a thousand remaining. Of course, all of this depends on whether you can determine what you choose is real or not!”

So this was how it was! This was an excellent method of gaining spirit essence stones!

Lin Ming's eyes brightened. He had originally neglected that Realm of the Gods alchemist's carving skills and identification abilities. But now, it seemed that they had had an extremely important function. It could certainly help to solve his lack of spirit essence stones.

If he could buy at a low price and sell at a high price, then he wouldn't need to spend time personally looking for wood spirit jade.

Lin Ming immediately transferred out the memories of that Realm of the Gods alchemist and began to meditate on them, thoroughly contrasting it with what he knew.

The memories of the soul fragment were not like lines of text in a book.

No matter how much textual knowledge he had, if he didn't practice it then it was wasted.

But, the memories of the soul fragment contained a massive amount of personal, hard-earned experience. That was the Realm of the Gods alchemist's total accumulated training for a period of over 10,000 years. There were countless experiences identifying countless items and collections. As long as Lin Ming could fully integrate all of this knowledge into himself, then his identification ability would rise to ridiculous heights.

Even if he could only achieve a 40 to 50% standard for a Realm of

the Gods alchemist, that was still enough to deal with any problems in the Sky Spill Continent. After all, the most ancient wood spirit jade carvings wouldn't be older than 70,000 to 80,000 years old. This was because after the ancient catastrophe of the Sky Spill Continent, the rise of the martial arts world here only began 70,000 to 80,000 years ago.

Li Yifeng looked through three or four collections, taking an hour each time to examine them.

After looking for such a long time, Li Yifeng still didn't buy anything. Still, manager Knifescar wasn't nervous. To a martial artist, several hours could be just the time spent on some light meditation; it couldn't be considered much at all.

Beside Li Yifeng, Lin Ming had actually closed his eyes and seemed as if he had entered meditation. In truth, he was rapidly fusing in those Realm of the Gods alchemist's memories concerning wood spirit jade carvings. He definitely didn't want to give up this chance of easily getting rich. In order to practice alchemy techniques, he not only needed wood spirit jade but also a massive amount of precious and rare materials. Relying on what he plundered from the South Sea Demon Region and Yin Yang Profound Palace was far from enough.

"I say Brother Knifescar, hurry up and show me the new stuff. All of these things on the shelves are either new imitations or old dubious items that no one has bought for several years. If you have anything new that just arrived then bring it out so we can take a good look and open our eyes."

Most of the things here were purchased by the Knifescar fellow from the bandits in this region. Since he bought them at a low price they were naturally sold at a low price too. All of the good items only took several days to sell to others, so what was left over was what others could only call ambiguous goods.

Thus, Li Yifeng asked the Knifescar fellow to take out the new goods.

“Hehe, I do have some things. What I have here is a pair of newly excavated ancient jade bracelets. These are the burial goods of ancient Emperors!” The Knifescar fellow was going to take these things out anyway, but had he wanted to wear down Li Yifeng’s patience by having him look over the old items first. Then, his interest in the new items would greatly increase. This was also a form of marketing.

As Zhou Kun heard the Knifescar fellow say this, his interest was also piqued. He laughed as he walked over and said, “What is there? Take it out so I can open my eyes too.”

Chapter 764 – Ancient Jade Bracelet

As Li Yifeng saw Zhou Kun stick to him like melted candy, he thought little of it. Shopping here all depended on one's own ability to begin with. Daring to buy or not, daring to match the price or not, everything would depend on one's eyes and courage.

When Li Yifeng first became obsessed with wood spirit jade carvings, he had bought fakes and he had bought counterfeits.

In the world of wood spirit jade carvings, fakes and counterfeits were two different things.

A fake was something new disguised as something old, made with wood spirit jade.

As for counterfeits, those were not made from wood spirit jade, but rather wood-attribute spirit essence stones. A wood-attribute martial artist at the Revolving Core realm or even the Life Destruction realm would use their inner energy to transform the spirit essence stone and then integrate a small amount of wood spirit jade powder within.

Counterfeit wood spirit jade formed by an expert was difficult to distinguish from the real deal. Let alone a novice who was just getting started, even masters who had been in the business for years would easily be tricked if they were inattentive for just a second.

In the traditions of Jade Row, new fakes disguised as old

treasures was part of the business. However, selling counterfeit goods as the real thing was a matter of ruining their reputation and they would have to pay the customer 10 times the price in compensation.

This was because what they sold wouldn't be jade. If they sold counterfeit goods then they couldn't be called Jade Row.

Li Yifeng had paid a great amount of money in order to touch upon the gate of identifying wood spirit jade. From the start when all he made was losses, to the present where it was small losses, to the future where he would make small profits, and then beyond that to great profits, that was what he planned.

Of course, Li Yifeng played this game not for money but because he was purely interested in it. It was no different from a mortal that loved gold and gems. Within the four Divine Kingdoms, there were far too many martial artists that loved wood spirit jade. In particular, female martial artists. If they had a set of real wood spirit jade jewelry then not only could it help nourish their soul, but they could also illuminate their own beauty and charms. Wood spirit jade was a high class luxury good desired by all noble daughters of every Divine Kingdom.

“You must all be thirsty after looking for such a long time. First, let's drink some tea.” The Knifescar fellow clapped his hands together. Suddenly two slender and beautiful young girls came sashaying out, their bodies covered in only a thin layer of fine gauze as they carried a set of teapots, cups, and tea stoves. The two young girls placed down the tea set and then threw blatant flirtatious glances at Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun. From underneath

that faint light veil that covered their bodies, one could clearly make out two dark red spots on their chests.

Zhou Kun laughed out loud and groped the chests of the two young girls. As for Li Yifeng, underneath Qing'er's contemptuous gaze, he managed to stay well-mannered and polite.

“Sluts!”

Qing'er spat out in irritation as the two young girls stepped back. The two young girls were martial artists to begin with and their hearing was very keen. Although they heard Qing'er's words, they didn't mind it at all. Instead, they giggled and looked back at Qing'er, a great sense of sly provocation clouding their faces.

This was the style and vigor of the desert. The men were rugged and the girls were openly sexual. Even the diet was greatly different. For instance, this pot of tea. Although it was called tea, the truth was that it seemed more like soup. There was butter and shredded vicious beast meat added in, as well as a number of seasonings.

Lin Ming took a single sip and nearly gagged; the smell of meat was unbearable. The once delicate fragrance of the tea was completely overpowered and mixed in with the meat, making it impossible to taste. Lin Ming couldn't bear to take a second sip. Truly, this was quite difficult.

Li Yifeng glanced straight at him and laughed. He was obviously aware of this tea's taste and hadn't made a single move towards it.

As for Zhou Kun, he drank the tea with great gusto. Lin Ming was speechless; this fellow really had peculiar tastes.

“Well, let’s start then.” As the Knifescar fellow saw Zhou Kun drink his cup of tea, he clapped once more. The two beautiful serving girls returned, causing Qing’er to adopt a ferocious expression.

The two young girls each held a tray in their hands that was covered with red silk.

The first tray was unveiled, revealing a green smoking pipe. There were martial artists that liked to smoke, although what they smoked wasn’t ordinary tobacco, but rather a variety of shredded spiritual plants with the characteristics of tobacco. There were some high quality mixes that cost one or two spirit essence stones for each use.

To smoke such shredded spiritual tobacco naturally required a good smoking pipe. A wood spirit jade smoking pipe was originally filled with wood-attribute energy itself. It could fuse with the special tobacco, making it even more fragrant, and even providing an effect of nourishing the soul.

“This is a wood spirit jade smoking pipe made 5000 years ago. The craftsmanship is superb, and the price is 1300 spirit essence stones. I won’t speak further about it. Guests, please take a look for yourselves.”

The Knifescar fellow held the wood spirit jade smoking pipe up.

Lin Ming looked at it. The first thing he investigated was not the year that smoking pipe was carved in, but rather the material it was made from.

From the texture of the wood spirit jade to the fluctuations of wood-attribute energy, he slowly discerned all of this and more.

‘13,000-14,000 ninth-grade wood spirit jade; the quality isn’t too bad either.’

Wood spirit jade had different measurements for its value. One of these was age. The longer that wood spirit jade existed, the more valuable it became. Wood spirit jade also had a grade; a high grade was even more important than the age of the wood spirit jade.

For example, wood spirit jade formed by a buried Demon Heart Flower would be several grades lower than wood spirit jade formed from a 10,000 Year Nirvana Dragon Root. But, the wood spirit jade formed from a 10,000 Year Nirvana Dragon Root would be several grades lower than a wood spirit jade formed from a profound gold divine fruit.

The grade of the spiritual plant that was the origin of the wood spirit jade was the most important factor in its quality.

After looking at the wood spirit jade’s quality, Lin Ming began to judge the year the smoking pipe was carved in. The luster was a bit

dim, and there were some faint sparks of color like bits of fluorite were mixed in. This was a special gloss formed from trace metal impurities on the surface of the wood spirit jade over several thousand years of time.

Based on this alone, as well as pure energy of the wood spirit jade, Lin Ming determined that this smoking pipe should be around 4000-5000 years old.

It seemed as if this Knifescar fellow wasn't lying after all.

After a quarter hour, Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun both stopped their appraisal.

"I want that smoking pipe." Zhou Kun said.

Li Yifeng hesitated for a moment, not speaking. If he spoke then the price would increase.

Although he was 70-80% sure that this smoking pipe was real, if he put it up at an auction house, the most he could receive was around 1700-1800 spirit essence stones. After deducting the auction fees, he would have less than 1500 left over. For a mere 300 spirit essence stones he would also have to take a significant risk. There really wasn't much worth in doing this, especially since he didn't smoke so he had no interest in the smoking pipe itself.

The Knifescar fellow looked at Li Yifeng with hope in his eyes. As he saw that Li Yifeng had no intention of bidding, he was

unavoidably disappointed. Still, he had bought this smoking pipe for 800 spirit essence stones. Making over a 60% profit in a single exchange was quite good.

In White Dragon Jade Row, all transactions were completed on the spot. Zhou Kun immediately put out 1300 spirit essence stones and bought the smoking pipe.

“Hehe, the first item was just an appetizer. This second item is the real deal! I guarantee that both of you will love it!” The Knifescar fellow said with relish. Then, he pulled the silk cover off of the other young girl’s tray, revealing a pair of bright crimson blood jade bracelets.

“This is...” Li Yifeng’s eyes lit up. “Blood spirit jade?”

Zhou Kun was also delighted. Blood spirit jade was an extremely rare form of wood spirit jade.

Oftentimes, a top heavenly material would have a vicious beast or Saint Beast protecting it. These beasts would be drawn in by the rich origin energy released by the spiritual plant, and would remain by its side, protecting it until it matured and ripened to the point where it could eat it up.

But sometimes there were accidents. For instance, if the spiritual plant’s origin energy was too strong, then after the vicious beast that protected it swallowed it down they wouldn’t be able to withstand the surge of origin energy. Their meridians would tear and their organs would cook until they finally exploded in a bloody

death.

Afterwards, this vicious beast would be buried underground together with the spiritual plant. Generally speaking, this sort of vicious beast was normally at a very high level. The energy and blood essence of the vicious beast would slowly and subtly seep into the wood spirit jade, forming the rare blood spirit jade.

This sort of peculiar wood spirit jade was 10 times or even 20 times more valuable than regular wood spirit jade.

If this pair of jade bracelets was really made of blood spirit jade and also had a history of several thousand years behind it, the price would be inestimable.

Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun each took a bracelet and rapidly identified its characteristics. Both of them were completely absorbed in their task. For a wood spirit jade collector, the rarer an item was, the easier their interest would be aroused.

Even Qing'er, who didn't care much more wood spirit jade to begin with, was filled with interest towards these two blood spirit jade bracelets.

Lin Ming silently watched from the side, allowing his perception to touch over the bracelets for a long time. There was a beautiful ruddy color, it was filled with energy, and the quality of the jade itself was extremely high. From all aspects it seemed to be real blood spirit jade. However, Lin Ming actually felt a faint death energy coming from the jade.

Death energy?

Although blood spirit jade was formed from dead things, after tens of thousands of years that death energy should have faded away by now. Unless...

Lin Ming thought for a moment and then said to Li Yifeng, “Let me have a look.”

Normally speaking, in order to fully appraise something, one had to use all their senses. They had to look, feel, touch, ask, listen, and smell.

Looking was to use the eyes, feeling was to use one’s perception, touching was to touch with one’s hands, asking was to determine whether or not what the owner said was true, listening was to hear the sounds it made, and smelling was to smell the faint scent it emitted.

True wood spirit jade had an extremely, extremely faint wooden smell. A grandmaster could even use this sort of fragrance to approximate the age.

It was impossible for Lin Ming to identify whether or not this jade bracelet was real or fake with just looking and feeling it.

Li Yifeng carefully passed the blood spirit jade bracelet to Lin Ming. In truth, having one’s valuable reverie time interrupted by

someone wasn't pleasant at all. However, Li Yifeng didn't comment on this. Since it was Lin Ming it was alright, even if he knew that Lin Ming didn't know anything about wood spirit jade carvings and just wanted to join in on the fun.

Lin Ming touched the blood spirit jade bracelet and smelled it. He already made an approximate judgement. The jade bracelet wasn't smooth. There was an extremely delicate sandy texture to it; all of this was in line with true blood spirit jade. However, when he smelled it, he had sensed an incomparably faint fragrance of blood. This nearly imperceptible smell was concealed by the maker using an ingenious method. If one wasn't prepared in advance then it would have been impossible to discern it.

This was not blood spirit jade but corpse jade. The so-called corpse jade was when wood spirit jade was used as a funeral object and sealed into the mouth or stomach of a freshly-buried martial artist. After over 10,000 years of time, the blood of the martial artist would permeate into the wood spirit jade, forming corpse jade.

There were only minor differences between corpse jade and blood spirit jade. Moreover, once it was processed and transformed by the collaborative efforts of a martial artist skilled in corpse techniques and a wood-attribute martial artist, the final product was nearly indistinguishable from real blood spirit jade.

This sort of method was extremely rare. Because corpse jade itself was already rare, many appraisal grandmasters that weren't prepared would also be tricked by this.

After another two hours of appraisal, Li Yifeng laid down the jade bracelet. His eyes flashed with excitement. He was 90% positive that this blood spirit jade was the real deal. Beside him, Zhou Kun had also finished his own appraisal, his eyes flashing with an avaricious gleam. Although his expression was somewhat vague, his movements seemed as if he only reluctantly put down the jade bracelet. It seemed as if he were especially tempted by the jade bracelet.

Chapter 765 – Bid

“How about it? Do you two young sirs have any interest? This is something unearthed from the grave of an ancient Emperor; it has a history of at least 10,000 years!” The Knifescar fellow happily said as he saw that the two young men were intrigued.

This jade was indeed a treasure unearthed from an ancient grave, but it was unknown whether or not it came from the tomb of an ancient great Emperor.

At that time, even the Knifescar fellow wasn't sure about the identity of these two jade bracelets when he received them from the man who dug up the grave. Finally, he had to ask the Great Elder of White Jade Dragon Row to appraise the items for him, finally determining that it was a 10,000 year old corpse jade and ended up purchasing it for 2000 spirit essence stones.

Corpse jade was also a valuable type of jade. Although it wasn't rare or precious like blood spirit jade, it was still more expensive than normal wood spirit jade carvings.

With such a rare and clever method used to disguise it, the Knifescar fellow had 120% confidence that everyone would believe his words.

“How many spirit essence stones?” Zhou Kun asked.

“12,000!”

The price that the Knifescar fellow suddenly broke out with was a profit of five times the cost. If this pair of jade bracelets was really crafted from blood spirit jade, then it could absolutely sell at an auction house for 25,000-30,000 spirit essence stones. The price that the Knifescar fellow listed was already extremely low.

But this was still 12,000 spirit essence stones. Even if it were Li Yifeng or Zhou Kun, they both still had to deliberate and then deliberate some more. This was not a small amount.

The two eventually switched jade bracelets, examining them once more. This continued appraisal lasted for another two hours. No matter how he looked at it, these ancient jade bracelets were the real deal.

The fine hairs left on the jade bracelet were absolutely formed over 10,000 years. Although this texture could be faked, it was actually impossible to do so in such a perfect manner that seemed to be in complete conformity. Moreover, the texture and wood spirit jade had formed a faint blossoming fog and a gradual gradient of color that was impossible to fake no matter how ingenious one's methods were.

The two remained silent. The Knifescar fellow wasn't anxious. He waited there, smiling, his eyes flashing with a cryptic light.

From the start until now, he had never said this was blood spirit jade. In truth, this didn't matter. The unspoken rules of Jade Row stipulated that there were real and fake items here; everything was

voluntarily bought. If someone was tricked then they could only blame their vision for being poor. No one could come back and complain unless Jade Row had truly sold counterfeit jade.

Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun may have had high ranking identities, but they also complied with these unspoken rules. Moreover, if White Jade Dragon Row could open they must have many supply channels and also considerable forces supporting them from behind the scenes.

Just because the Knifescar fellow bowed and sucked up to every guest didn't mean that he was afraid of them.

"12,000. I'll take it." After remaining silent for half an hour, Li Yifeng firmly spoke as he licked his slightly dry lips.

He had fully confirmed that this was a treasure from 10,000 years. However, what he didn't know was that this wasn't blood spirit jade, but corpse jade.

Although corpse jade was very rare, this sort of thing had a very grim and ominous reputation. There wasn't a noble lady out there that was willing to wear something that had been sealed in a corpse for 10,000 years. If this pair of corpse jade bracelets was to be auctioned off in an auction house, they would sell for 5000 spirit essence stones at the most.

After someone started with a price it was easier for others to pile on. Zhou Kun stretched out his hand and said, "I'll add 500; 12,500!"

The two bidding against each other was certainly the scene that the Knifescar fellow wanted to see the most. He smiled and said, “Sir Li, Sir Zhou has offered 12,500... would you...”

“13,000!” Li Yifeng raised the price by another 500.

As Qing'er heard this, she gripped her chest in fear, “Young Master...”

“It's fine, I have 90% belief in myself.”

There were always risks involved in purchasing these jade carvings. Even appraisal grandmasters had moments where they would make monumental mistakes, sinking everything they had ever worked for. However, if one didn't want to take risks then they could simply go to the auction house. Not only would it be more expensive, but they would never become an appraisal master of ancient jade carvings. They could also become lovers and collectors of ancient jade carvings, amateurs that knew nothing about ancient jade.

Only by fighting out and struggling in these places where fakes were mixed in with the real items could one become a true master of their field.

“13,500!” Zhou Kun refused to be outdone. But, even for him, putting out such a massive amount of spirit essence stones strained his finances to the limit.

“14,000!” Li Yifeng shouted at nearly the same time. But at this time, Lin Ming’s true essence sound transmission sounded in his ears. After he heard it, Li Yifeng’s expression suddenly changed.

Lin Ming said, “I felt a very faint death energy coming from the jade. I wonder if Brother Li also felt the same thing?”

“Death energy?” Li Yifeng’s heart jumped. As he investigated the jade bracelet a bit more, he frowned again. Although Lin Ming had mentioned this point, Li Yifeng simply didn’t have much understanding into an unorthodox treasure like corpse jade. For now he hadn’t managed to associate them. Or rather, it should be said that as someone who had never seen a corpse jade himself, he could never think of this possibility to begin with.

“14,500!” Zhou Kun shouted out a higher price, blue veins on his forehead bulging out. If this price went up any more then he wouldn’t be able to bear it. Although his total wealth amounted to 50,000-60,000 spirit essence stones, the vast majority of that was fixed in his possessions and properties; he didn’t have that many spirit essence stones on him.

“Sir Zhou has made a bid of 14,500... I wonder if Sir Li...” The Knifescar fellow respectfully said even as his heart blossomed with joy. If he managed to sell this pair of bracelets then his profit would be enormous. After he deducted the portion for the forces behind White Dragon Jade Row, it would be enough for profits to last them a year or two.

Li Yifeng wasn't sure whether or not he should shout out a higher price. At this time, Lin Ming's true essence sound transmission sounded out more. Lin Ming thought that his one reminder to Li Yifeng was enough for him to understand, but it seemed as if he had overestimated his jade-loving new friend too much. "Brother Li, I have a bad feeling about this pair of jade bracelets. Please be cautious if you wish to purchase them."

Feeling?

Li Yifeng was startled. He didn't believe in some illusive thing like people having a magic sense. If it were an average person speaking to him then he would have disregarded them as speaking nonsense.

However, Lin Ming was not an average person. Since Li Yifeng had known Lin Ming, he had felt as if Li Ming was covered in a hazy fog that he couldn't pierce through; he had simply never been able to understand him at all.

After hesitating for a long time, Li Yifeng finally suppressed the desire in his heart to make another bid. 15,000 spirit essence stones really was too high, and Lin Ming's continual two warnings had made him doubt his own judgement.

If these things really weren't what he thought they were, this his losses would be far too great.

"Sir Li, you..." The Knifescar fellow looked at Li Yifeng with hope in his eyes. Zhou Kun also glanced over at Li Yifeng

nervously. If Li Yifeng increased the price again, then he wouldn't be able to bear it.

Li Yifeng hesitated for a bit long and then finally let out a long sigh. He shook his head and said, "I give up!"

To a collector of ancient jade carvings, giving up on a piece of jade that they had taken a liking towards also required a great deal of determination and courage. Li Yifeng may have grit his teeth and given up on the bidding, but a trace of dismay and sadness inevitably remained in his heart.

The Knifescar fellow was slightly disappointed. If Li Yifeng had continued to raise the price then his own profits would have been that much higher.

Zhou Kun let out a long breath of relief, his palms wet with sweat. That was a close call! If the bid were any higher then he really wouldn't be able to bring out that many spirit essence stones.

"Then... congratulations to Sir Zhou for obtaining this pair of jade bracelets!" The Knifescar fellow brightly smiled. He took up the jade bracelets from the beautiful young girl's jade plate and then placed them into a special wood box before handing everything over to Zhou Kun. Zhou Kun also silently paid out 14,500 spirit essence stones.

Li Yifeng watched the two complete their transaction and envy bloomed in his heart. He couldn't help but think that it would have

been better if he had just stuck it out.

Once Zhou Kun successfully obtained the pair of jade bracelets, he laughed and then smiled as he looked towards Li Yifeng, “Many thanks to great Sir Li for declining in such a humble manner. Sir Li should have many spirit essence stones. Perhaps you’re worried that you would be reported by ‘Sir’ Murong to your family? If you really spent 15,000 spirit essence stones, then I fear you might have to face the wall in confinement for 150 years, hahaha!”

Before the transaction was completed, Zhou Kun didn’t dare to antagonize Li Yifeng too much. After all, Li Yifeng’s family background was greater than his. If Li Yifeng really went red with rage then he would end up being the one to suffer.

But none of that mattered now. Since he had already obtained what he desired, Li Yifeng could go crazy all he wanted.

Li Yifeng had been feeling a bit sad to begin with because he couldn’t buy the item that he fancied, but now after being mocked again by Zhou Kun, he was furious. Still, he considered himself quite calm as he derisively said, “Zhou Kun, don’t be so happy with yourself. You don’t even know if what you have is real or fake. Be careful that you won’t be able to even afford your pants tomorrow.”

“Haha, I think Brother Li knows well enough if what I bought was real or fake! In our field of interest there are certainly risks, but if you don’t dare to go all out even if you have a 90% assurance in yourself then you might as well go home and play with your kids!” Zhou Kun laughed, mocking Li Yifeng once again. Zhou Kun

had played in the field of jade carvings for so many years that he could appraise them with 80-90% certainty. Otherwise, he never would have put out such an enormous sum of money.

At this moment, the Knifescar fellow said, “Sir Li, Sir Zhou, let us all cool down here. Everyone that comes to my White Dragon Jade Row is an honored guest. Sir Li, although you might not have managed to buy up that pair of jade bracelets, my store still has many other treasures. If Sir Li has a liking for any of them then buying them is still the same.”

The Knifescar fellow had managed this store for enough years to know the ways of the heart. Although it seemed he was mediating this little quarrel, the truth was that he was taking advantage of a time when Li Yifeng was drowning in rage to sell him more goods. A customer was more likely to buy things if they were impulsive and emotional.

At this moment, Zhou Kun said, “Brother Li is so rich. Still, it seems he’s managed too tightly by that manly woman of his. He might not necessarily be able to buy anything here.”

The Knifescar fellow wanted to praise Zhou Kun’s mocking words. In fact, he wanted to hug Zhou Kun to death. Not only did he give him a nearly 13,000 spirit essence stone profit, but now he was also agitating Li Yifeng to buy other things.

Qing’er coldly said, “Humph, our family’s Big Sister Murong reins in our Young Master because our Young Master has a promising future! You think he’s like you, someone who failed to become a successor? Who even gives a shit about you now? You’re

nothing but a lump of cow poop plastered on the wall!”

Qing'er's words were not common poison. She normally didn't curse, but as soon as she did she would stab at all their sore points.

After Zhou Kun heard he, his face turned blue.

Li Yifeng laughed out loud. He was an open-minded fellow to begin with. Although that matter just now had left him a bit depressed, he wouldn't let it hang in his mind.

He grabbed Qing'er's waist with a hand and said, “Okay, I'll choose some good things today to bring back lest I return empty-handed! Brother Lin! Would you also like to take a gamble at this game of chance?”

Li Yifeng was only thoughtlessly speaking to Lin Ming. He didn't expect Lin Ming to faintly smile and nod.

“Alright. I'll choose some things. I'm feeling quite lucky today.”

Chapter 766 – Swindled

“Brother Lin, in White Dragon Jade Row, most of the items on these shelves are fake. Normally speaking, 80-90% of the good stuff has already been taken away, and the rest is either fake or ambiguous things. Brother Lin, if you really want to buy something then just pick a few small pieces so that you’re happy. Don’t try to go for anything too expensive.”

As Li Yifeng saw that Lin Ming really was intending to buy some things, he couldn’t help but remind him of the dangers here. If he were an appraisal grandmaster then he could help Lin Ming out, but as someone who was at the most basic level, he didn’t have much confidence that he could identify these ambiguous goods.

“Brother Li, rest assured that I have a fair idea of what I’m doing. Also, shopping should be a happy occasion.”

“Haha! Well said! Happiness is priceless! Although this sort of jade carving hobby is more looking than buying, that still doesn’t mean we should just drag our feet around and eye things all day!” Li Yifeng said, then directing Lin Ming towards that wood spirit jade dragon carving that he had asked about before. It was 3300 spirit essence stones.

Li Yifeng had come before and looked at this dragon carving several times already. Yet, while he truly did like it, he just couldn’t make up his mind about it so he never dared to buy. But, he decided to take advantage of today and directly pick it up.

As Lin Ming saw Li Yifeng pick up the dragon carving he felt a bit helpless for his friend. He had seen this dragon carving and someone had explained that it was a work from a grandmaster that lived a thousand years ago.

Lin Ming couldn't judge if this really was the work of that grandmaster, but what Lin Ming could judge was the year this was crafted. It was an imitation treasure created no more than 100 years ago.

He cautioned. "Brother Li, I have a feeling about this dragon carving..."

"A bad feeling?"

"A bit."

"It's fine. Your brother me has already wanted to buy this dragon carving for some time now. But, I just haven't been able to do it. It's as you said: buying things should be for our own happiness. If I return empty-handed today then it will be difficult for my thoughts to remain smooth. So if I buy this carved dragon and it ends up being some sort of fake, I'll still recognize it as okay."

Since Li Yifeng had said this in such a happy manner, Lin Ming naturally didn't say anything further.

Lin Ming glanced at the Knifescar fellow and saw that his grin was as wide as a smiling Buddha's. He had done enough business

today that gold was spilling out of him; of course he would be happy.

Lin Ming faintly smiled. He walked towards the shelves and started choosing a jade carving.

He currently still had 6000 top grade true essence stones from Xuan Wuji. In addition to the wealth from the other Life Destruction powerhouses he killed, he had around 14,000-15,000 top grade true essence stones. Lin Ming planned to use the majority of these to purchase jade carvings.

If this was the case, he naturally wanted to buy the expensive goods.

“Seventh grade wood spirit jade, 300,000 years, this is quite the good material.” Lin Ming looked at a two foot high Buddha in front of him. This kind of wood spirit jade was considered to be quite good. According to his estimates, the price of this definitely wouldn’t be low.

As the Knifescar fellow saw Lin Ming looking at the jade Buddha, he smiled in greeting. He thought that Lin Ming was only Li Yifeng’s follower, but it seemed that he was Li Yifeng’s friend instead. Naturally he would treat him nicer now.

However, as he noticed Lin Ming’s stance as he examined the jade carvings, it was obvious that he was even newer than a newbie. Normally, an appraisal expert would take several quarter hours looking at a jade carving, even touching and smelling it.

But, Lin Ming would look at a jade carving for an incense stick of time at most. Sometimes he would reach out and touch them, but most of the time he would just glance over them. What could he possibly see?

Thus, the Knifescar fellow had recognized Lin Ming as a novice.

This sort of know-nothing normally would normally never buy anything unless they were an absolute fool. Otherwise they would waste several thousand spirit essence stones without even knowing if the wood spirit jade carving they bought was real or fake.

Thus, the Knifescar fellow didn't take Lin Ming as a customer. He only smiled at Lin Ming to give face to Li Yifeng. "That jade Buddha has lot number 45; the price is 5000 spirit essence stones...."

The Knifescar fellow shook the jade slip containing the prices in his hand and directly quoted the price to Lin Ming. He wanted Lin Ming to quit while he was ahead so that he wouldn't waste anyone's time here. Normally, when an amateur heard such a high price they would simply give up. After all, they didn't understand anything and had only come to join in on the fun anyway.

So even if this wood spirit jade Buddha in front of Lin Ming was the real deal that could sell for at least 8000-9000 spirit essence stones at an auction house, the Knifescar fellow wasn't nervous at all. He would bet his toes that Lin Ming wouldn't be interested in this item.

Let alone Lin Ming, even those martial artists that bragged they were appraisal experts still hadn't bought it in these past two years. That jade Buddha seemed so ambiguous; just who would dare to buy it?

The price was so high to begin with, and it lacked a trace of pale cold light that a real ancient jade Buddha statue would have. It was inevitable that anyone would hesitate after looking at it for a period of time. But in truth, it wasn't everything real object that had this sort faint blue light.

With all these reasons combined, the Knifescar fellow never imagined that Lin Ming would look so taken in by this wood spirit jade Buddha. Lin Ming repeatedly traced his hands over it and said, "It looks quite good. My mother likes to worship Buddha. I'll buy this for her; she should enjoy it."

The Knifescar fellow thought that he had heard wrong. Did this boy have a fever? Just because his mother liked to worship Buddha, he would actually gift her a treasure worth 5000 spirit essence stone? The hell? Was this for real?

It wasn't just the Knifescar fellow that was shocked, but even Li Yifeng was frightened. "Brother Lin, don't joke around. This jade Buddha is so sketchy; are you sure you want to buy it?"

A 5000 spirit essence stone jade Buddha was a very high priced item within the inventory of White Dragon Jade Row. If Li Yifeng were to buy it he would have to consider this over and over and

over again for fear that he made a mistake. But, Lin Ming hadn't even take an incense stick of time before he decided to buy this jade Buddha. This sort of behavior could only be described as....completely idiotic.

What Jade Row loved the most was too see rich fools. They would casually buy whatever they wanted, whether it was real or fake. But, according to Li Yifeng's understanding of Lin Ming, Lin Ming was an extremely talented individual that would never do something stupid. He also wasn't too rich either, so just what was going on here?

“Hehe, congratulations Brother Knifescar, you just ran into a wealthy kid! You're rich now!” Zhou Kun grinned from behind Lin Ming. His words seemed to be in a jovial tone but he was obviously mocking Lin Ming's stupidity.

However, as the Knifescar fellow heard Zhou Kun congratulate him, he actually felt bitter in his heart. This jade Buddha was not excavated by others but instead came from the inventory of the White Dragon Jade Row Headquarters. It was one of the better treasures in his store. If he really had to sell it for 5000 spirit essence stones then he would lose money on that transaction.

“This little brother, do you happen to know the rules of our Jade Row? There are both real and fake items here, and everything you buy depends on your own vision and willingness to do so. Once you make a mistake and regret your purchase, there are no returns.” The Knifescar fellow hoped that Lin Ming didn't understand the rules and would give up after hearing this. But, he didn't think that Lin Ming would instead slightly nodded, indicating that he

was well aware of all of this.

“Great! Then I’ll wrap it up for you!” The Knifescar fellow tried to appear as elated as possible like he had just made a killer profit and Li Ming would instead feel uncertain at heart. But, Lin Ming simply nodded without hesitation, making the Knifescar fellow feel as if his heart was being ripped out.

This boy shouldn’t be playing a pig to eat a tiger, right!?

Li Yifeng couldn’t help but be a bit afraid for Lin Ming. “Brother Lin, are you sure about this? This is a 5000 spirit essence stone item!”

“I know, that’s why I want it. Shopping should be for our own happiness. Wrap it up.”

Li Yifeng opened and closed his mouth several times before ruefully smiling and saying, “Ok. In any case, if it’s Brother Lin then even if you spend all your spirit essence stones you’ll be able to quickly gain them back again.”

The Knifescar fellow endured the bitter pain in his heart as he wrapped up the jade Buddha. He kept his smiling face as happy as possible. However, just as he finished wrapping it and was securing the package, he nearly fell on his face as he saw that Lin Ming had picked up a viridian incense burner and was tossing it about.

This incense burner was also one of the real items here. It's value was less than the jade Buddha, but it could still be sold for 7000-8000 spirit essence stones at the auction house!

This was also something that was brought down from Headquarters to stock the store. This boy, he couldn't be wanting to purchase this incense burner, right? Then his White Dragon Jade Row would really suffer a loss! In the jade slip, this incense burner was only marked at 4500 spirit essence stones. If he sold it then he would have to make up the difference to Headquarters!

In order for Jade Row attract guests, the marked prices were all relatively low. As for the true treasures of the shop, if they were swept up by someone then it would be difficult for his Jade Row to continue operating.

"This boy just bought a 5000 spirit essence stone item...he shouldn't buy anything again...." The Knifescar fellow held out on this hope. However, Lin Ming's next sentence crushed that Knifescar fellow's hopes to bits.

Lin Ming looked at the jade slip with the prices and said to the Knifescar fellow, "Wrap this up for me too."

The Knifescar fellow only felt everything go dark around him for a moment, almost fainting. His heart trembled and he maintained the brightest smile that he could as he said, "You want this? This viridian incense burner is carved from ancient 8000 year old river jade; the craftsmanship is excellent and it clearly stems from the hand of a famous expert. If you sold it in an auction house it could go for as high as 8000 spirit essence stones! Brother Lin truly has

good judgement; let me wrap this up for you!”

Although the Knifescar fellow seemed euphoric, his pace while wrapping up the item was astoundingly slow. He was hoping that Lin Ming would change his mind during this period of time. However, Lin Ming had already started looking at a third item.

On the sidelines, Zhou Kun laughed as he said, “What a mess, I’ve never seen such a mess before! That jade Buddha has been on the shelves for three years already and no one dared to buy it; this boy is too amazing!” Zhou Kun vigorously patted the Knifescar fellow’s shoulders. “Brother Knifescar, you really made a killing today! You should treat us out!”

“Treat, of course I will treat you!” The Knifescar fellow said. Even though his intestines painfully twisted together he still maintained a vibrant expression as if he had made a massive profit.

“Brother Lin, if you really plan on buying some things to play around with then it doesn’t need to be here. I can take you out to look at some stalls. The price is cheaper and there fundamentally shouldn’t be too much of a difference.” Li Yifeng suggested.

The things in the stalls outside were purely to swindle others; it wasn’t even 99% fake, but 100% fake. They were all counterfeit fake goods crafted from wood-attribute spirit essence stones.

However, sometimes there would be 1-2 vendors who would put out a precious treasure without being able to recognize its value. Li Yifeng had also visited countless stalls in the past, and the chances

of this occurring was the same as being struck by thunder.

“Brother Li, I know what I’m doing.” Lin Ming said with a true essence sound transmission. He held a new fancy looking item in his hands, but as he glanced over at the Knifescar fellow that Knifescar fellow’s face had gone completely hideous.

F*ck! He had been swindled!

Chapter 767 – White Dragon Jade Card

This new item in Lin Ming's hand was also a true treasure that could sell for 7000-8000 spirit essence stones in an auction house. This was something that the Knifescar fellow had received 20 years before in a small town of the Thatch Region. Although it didn't cost much, he still wasn't willing to sell it to Lin Ming for a higher price.

The White Dragon Jade Row was known to have seven fakes for every three real treasure items. But the truth was that it couldn't even match up to eight fakes for every two real treasures. Now, Lin Ming had continuously picked three real treasures in a row. Moreover, they were some of the top ranked items of the White Dragon Jade Row. Just how could there be such a coincidence in this world?

“Sir Lin, I could have never imagined... You're so young and yet you're an appraisal prodigy! The play that I put on in front of everyone must be laughable to an expert like you!” The Knifescar fellow said with a true essence sound transmission, still maintaining a smiling face.

Lin Ming faintly smiled in return and looked up at the Knifescar fellow. “Brother Knifescar, what are you trying to say? Are you saying there are any problems with the jade carvings I'm purchasing?”

Lin Ming already knew the answer to his question. He had been planning to buy both fakes and real items together, but Lin Ming's finances were limited. If he bought some fake items, then he

wouldn't be able to afford the most expensive real ones. Plus, buying small fake items along with the most expensive real ones was merely him acting like an idiot, burying his head in the sand as he tried to fool this Knifescar fellow.

Thus, Lin Ming didn't bother to conceal his intentions at all. This was a one-time transaction, after all, and he didn't plan on returning to the White Dragon Jade Row in the future. If he ever came back, he feared that he would actually be asked to leave before he even went through the door. Since he was here today, he might as well take advantage of the fact that two great customers, Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun, were both here. Now, the Knifescar fellow couldn't refuse to sell to him, nor could he ask Lin Ming to leave.

“Sir Lin, let's not waste our time with these games. If you really did think there was a problem with any of these items then would you really spend over 10,000 spirit essence stones on a gamble? Today I will admit that my punishment is deserved, but that item in your hand is the last item that I can sell to you. My White Dragon Jade Row has its own rules and I can only blame my bad luck for being unable to realize that a Supreme Elder has visited my shop today. I also hope that you will consider my reputation here, and won't push me to the edge. After all, my White Dragon Jade Row is open for business in this Thatch Region where both good and bad people are mixed up. We won't allow anyone to bully us here.”

Since the Knifescar fellow said that much, Lin Ming no longer put on an act. “I apologize. Things are a little tight for me at the moment. Once I leave White Dragon Jade Row, I will be sure to withdraw. But, Brother Knifescar, you've also gained over 10,000

spirit essence stones. The value of these items I take away should only be around 18,000 spirit essence stones. Brother Knifescar should still have a hefty surplus profit.

Lin Ming's few words set off a storm in the Knifescar fellow's mind. This meant that Lin Ming had realized that the blood spirit jade from before was a fake. Thinking about it, it must have been Lin Ming who stopped Li Yifeng from increasing the price.

The Knifescar man had studied those bracelets for three whole days and still could not be sure about their authenticity. Finally, he had to go to a Great Elder from the Headquarters to appraise the item. But Lin Ming had only looked at it and touched it for a bit before realizing that it was fake. This meant that his vision was at least three points higher than any of the Elders in the Headquarters!

And thinking about it even more, when Lin Ming had chosen those three items several moments before, he had picked up the three most valuable ones from the pile of ambiguous treasures. This had made the Knifescar fellow extremely shocked.

Just who was this young man?

If he could walk together with Li Yifeng, and from the way that Li Yifeng treated him as an equal peer, it could be assumed that this young man surnamed Lin was not ordinary in the least. Still, he had never heard of him before. It was as if he had simply appeared out of thin air.

“I must say I admire Sir Lin’s eyesight. May I inquire into Sir Lin’s given name, and whether or not Sir Lin would like to join my White Dragon Jade Row Headquarters as a guest appraisal master?” If the Knifescar fellow had hated Lin Ming to the bones because he had swept up his three most expensive treasures, then all of that hatred had now disappeared. In the world of ancient jade carvings, appraisal grandmasters were existences respected by all. It was an extremely rare and valuable opportunity to bring a collection to a grandmaster and obtain his advice, and Lin Ming was already skilled enough to have reached this level.

“I’m sorry, but I must cultivate and I don’t have much time,” Lin Ming said, openly declining this offer and not even giving his name.

This made the Knifescar fellow feel extremely regretful; he had wanted to become friends with Lin Ming after all, or at least to develop good relations. But thinking about it, Lin Ming was bound to have some kind of extraordinary background, and would not necessarily wish to enter their White Dragon Jade Row.

“Since Sir Lin says so, then I won’t ask anymore. This is our Jade Row’s sound transmission card. If Sir Lin is interested at any time, then please come to my White Dragon Jade Row to have a look.” All of the Knifescar fellow’s words had been spoken with true essence sound transmission, except for these last words. He took out a viridian jade card with a lifelike Azure Dragon embossed onto the back. This was the White Dragon Jade Row’s engraving.

Lin Ming was startled as soon as he received this jade card. This card was actually made of wood spirit jade. Although it did not

require much material and although it was an extremely low grade of wood spirit jade, it was still remarkable. This sort of jade card could not be randomly awarded, otherwise even the White Dragon Jade Row would be unable to bear the costs.

As the Knifescar fellow passed the jade card, Zhou Kun was watching all of it. This immediately sent him into a fit of laughter, “That’s the White Dragon Jade Card! I’ve come to the White Dragon Jade Row for several years before receiving one! Congratulations to Brother Knifescar for finding another golden goose! This is giving such face to Brother Lin here!”

In Zhou Kun’s opinion, Lin Ming was too great of an idiot. The first time here he had already delivered up over 10,000 spirit essence stones to the White Dragon Jade Row! This must have been the reason why the Knifescar fellow issued Lin Ming a White Dragon Jade Card, all in order to tie up this great golden goose.

Golden goose?

The Knifescar fellow did not know what expression to make. In fact, the actual golden goose was the laughing fool. Comparing Lin Ming to Zhou Kun... The Knifescar fellow did not know whether to laugh or cry.

The Knifescar fellow glanced at Zhou Kun and thought to himself, “Many thanks to a fool like you for buying that pair of so-called blood spirit jade bracelets to fill up my losses for today, otherwise I really would be in trouble.”

“Should I call you a tycoon, Sir Lin? Since you’ve already bought three ‘treasures’, do you not plan on buying any more?” Zhou Kun asked Lin Ming with zest. Today there were two wonderful events that had happened. First, he had obtained a precious treasure for a low price, and secondly he had watched as others were being tricked into buying expensive fakes.

Lin Ming faintly smiled and shook his head, saying, “I’ve already bought three items; I won’t be able to afford any more.”

“Haha, if you need spirit essence stones then you can also ask Brother Li. Brother Li is also a rich man!”

“Brother Lin, ignore him. Let’s go.” Li Yifeng patted Lin Ming’s shoulder in comfort. He didn’t know that Lin Ming had intentionally bought three expensive jade carvings in a row. With his understanding of Lin Ming, the man had no idea what wood spirit jade carvings were to begin with, otherwise he would never have asked those questions back on the spirit boat.

“Hehe.” As Zhou Kun saw Li Yifeng leave the White Dragon Jade Row with Lin Ming, he looked a bit regretful. “Brother Knifescar, I’ll come back next week, haha, but I will head out first for now.”

“Take care!” The Knifescar fellow said, all smiles.

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“Brother Lin, why did you buy those three jade carvings? The

price of those three added together is over 10,000 spirit essence stones! It isn't much cheaper than that pair of blood spirit jade bracelets!" Li Yifeng immediately asked Lin Ming as soon as they left. In his opinion, Lin Ming would not do something like that without reason. But he still could not figure out just what Lin Ming's intentions were.

There was no way for Lin Ming to explain his reasoning in a simple manner, so he just casually said, "I just had a special feeling about those three jade carvings, so I bought them."

"Alright." Li Yifeng shook his head, a bit stymied. "Since you like it, it's fine. Would you like to have your three items appraised? There is a sixth stage Life Destruction master in this city. He was also my first appraisal teacher that taught me how to identify wood spirit jade carvings; he is a highly respected and infamous individual. If he examines something he definitely won't make a mistake. Although most of the goods in White Dragon Jade Row are fake, some of them are real after all. There might be something good among those items you bought.

"Oh? A sixth stage Life Destruction master?" Lin Ming was surprised. In the Sky Spill Continent, there were some martial artists who had been able to become Peerless emperors after reaching the fourth stage of Life Destruction. However, these were very rare occurrences. This mostly happened when someone stumbled into a massive bout of luck that allowed them to become Emperor powerhouses. Even then, they would be the weakest of the rank.

The most common Emperor powerhouses had reached stages five

or six of Life Destruction before becoming Emperors. There were very few who had reached stage seven of Life Destruction and nearly none who reached stage eight of Life Destruction. As for ninth stage of Life Destruction, those were legendary existences detailed in ancient texts from the Realm of the Gods.

Now in this random desert city that Li Yifeng had stopped by there was actually a sixth stage Life Destruction Supreme Elder. It was natural that Lin Ming would be stunned. Such a person would logically enter the Divine Sea realm in just one more step.

Of course, this so-called ‘one more step’ was as difficult as ascending to the heavens.

As Li Yifeng and Lin Ming were talking, they suddenly a hearty laugh from in front of them. As Lin Ming followed the voice, he saw that not too far away, in a teahouse there were seven or eight men sitting around a stone table. The stone table had many pots filled with that putrid shredded-meat tea. And one of those men was Zhou Kun.

Zhou Kun swung his folding fan, a self-satisfied smirk covering his face. He had an open box in front of him and in that wooden box was that pair of blood spirit jade bracelets that he had previously bought.

“Brother Zhou’s expertise is amazing! Blood spirit jade has all but disappeared from the Thatch Region for the last several years, but now Brother Zhou’s purchase has really broadened our minds!” a middle-aged man wearing animal skins made compliments from across the table.

Zhou Kun laughed, his heart overjoyed. Still, he modestly said, “It’s just a preliminary judgement of mine. Although I’m 90% sure of my decision, there is still some risk involved. “

Just as Zhou Kun’s voice fell, a Revolving Core realm white-clothed old man smiled and said, “Brother Zhou is too prudent. Brother Zhou has extremely keen perception towards ancient jade carvings. You’ve only entered this trade for several years and yet your eyesight is no worse than this old man’s!”

The white-clothed old man laughed and picked up the pair of jade bracelets. He repeatedly studied them under the sunlight, occasionally taking out a small treasure mirror to examine it closer. Finally, he laid the bracelets back down and sighed in admiration.

“Old White, how is it, are they real?” a young man eagerly asked.

“They shouldn’t be fake,” the white-clothed old man breathed out. Seeing that this old man had come to the same conclusion as he had, Zhou Kun’s smile turned even brighter.

“How many spirit essence stones do you think they’re worth?” another young man couldn’t wait to ask.

“How rude!” The white-clothed old man admonished the youngsters, “Blood spirit jade, is extremely rare. Even new jades are hard to find, not to mention something as old as this! Every year the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom only produces an

exceedingly small amount, and nearly all of that is supplied to the Royal Family. You can hardly find this anywhere else, so don't just open your mouth and ask how many spirit essence stones it's worth!"

Chapter 768 – Guru Blueway, Destiny Decree

The young men that were reprimanded by the white-clothed old man didn't seem perturbed at all. One of them laughed and said, "Old White, consider me as having spoken a hasty remark, but such a rare wood spirit jade carving must have a price to it. We are also newcomers to this area so our experience is limited. Just tell us how many spirit essence stones you think this is worth so we can open our eyes."

As the white-clothed old man heard the young man's words, his expression became like a dead log. But, Zhou Kun actually bluntly said, "This pair of blood spirit jade bracelets can be sold on the auction house for 25,000 to 30,000 spirit essence stones. If you manage to bump into someone wealthy that loves blood spirit jade then it might go for even higher."

As Zhou Kun reported this price, all of the young men present sucked in a deep breath of air. 30,000 spirit essence stones! Those present only had a net worth of several thousand spirit essence stones. This was an amount several times their complete wealth!

When they played with jade carvings they only messed around with small items. As for the expensive ones, those were only for looking. Who could play around like Zhou Kun?

At this moment, Zhou Kun saw Li Yifeng nearby.

"Haha, Brother Li is also here! I saw that Brother Li bought an

ancient dragon carving from the White Dragon Jade Row. I just happen to have Mister White here. Mister White has a great deal of experience; he's already looked at my blood spirit jade bracelets."

Zhou Kun casually spoke these words for two reasons. First to show off that this white-clothed old man had affirmed that these blood spirit jade bracelets were real, and secondly because he didn't have much faith in the ancient jade dragon carving that Li Yifeng had bought. He wanted to have Mister White appraise it to embarrass Li Yifeng. After all, that ancient jade dragon had been one of the ambiguous items and had been at the White Dragon Jade Row for far too long. If it were really something good then someone would have bought it up a long time ago.

Li Yifeng knit his eyebrows together. As he saw that Zhou Kun was showing off his blood spirit jade bracelets to the circle of men and also simultaneously hearing that he had obtained Mister White's confirmation, it would be wrong to say that he didn't feel a twinge of regret in his heart. This Mister White had been in the jade carving trade for several dozen years now. Although he wasn't a top class appraisal grandmaster, he could still be considered an expert in his profession. He had even been banned from entering the White Dragon Jade Row; he was no longer a character that they could entertain.

After hearing that this type of person had confirmed the veracity of the blood spirit jade bracelets, he only shook his head. After all, he too had been biased towards thinking that they were the real deal to begin with. "Brother Lin, let's get out of here. I plan on going to the grandmaster to appraise this ancient jade dragon carving; perhaps it might be real, hahaha!"

Lin Ming didn't speak. In the ancient jade carving trade, it was easy to be influenced by thoughts and give birth to past regrets if one didn't make the purchase, one made the purchase, or made them think that they had been fooling themselves all along.

"Mm, alright." Lin Ming didn't mind. He had already identified the items that he bought as being quite good, and now he just lacked spirit essence stones.

Opening the third gate of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates didn't require a specific kind of miraculous body transformation medicine. As long as he had some body transformation miracle medicine of a certain rank, no matter what type it was, it was completely applicable to him. Lin Ming had searched through the Realm of the Gods alchemist's memories several times and had locked onto several types of medicines that he could refine. As long as he had enough time and materials then he was confident he could successfully concoct them. And the bountiful lands of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom were much better than Lin Ming had imagined. He would be able to find many materials he needed here. Of course, that was providing he had enough spirit essence stones.

Lin Ming and Li Yifeng headed towards the mansion of this small city's appraisal grandmaster.

As Zhou Kun saw the two people walking away, he immediately realized where they were going. He faintly smiled as he darkly thought, 'Li Yifeng must be going to Guru Blueway to have that ancient jade dragon carving of his appraised. He didn't dare to let Mister White appraise it because he feared that his jade dragon

carving might be a fake, and it would be a loss of face if that was revealed in front of everyone, hahaha. I'll go see Grandmaster Blueway and take a look at just how precious your ancient jade dragon carving is.'

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The so-called appraiser residency that Li Yifeng had mentioned was in truth a very ordinary-looking house. The courtyard walls were built from rough stones and the whole place looked a bit shabby and worn out from the outside. It was impossible to imagine that a sixth grade Life Destruction powerhouse lived here.

"Brother Lin, this appraisal grandmaster has lived here for the last 100 years; his name is Guru Blueway. He's one of the top 300 ranked characters on the Destiny Decree!"

"Destiny Decree?" Lin Ming asked, a bit stunned.

"Mm, the Destiny Decree is a ranking list for strength within the Sky Spill Continent. Only Life Destruction powerhouses are listed on it and it is jointly issued out by several great intelligence organizations. Aside from the Destiny Decree, there is also an Emperor Decree which only has Divine Sea powerhouses. However, the Emperor Decree rarely changes. Those Divine Sea Supreme Elders are always wandering around with unknown whereabouts so it's difficult to collect any information on them.

"Ranking the Life Destruction powerhouses isn't easy either; it's only a rough estimate used for reference."

There were over 100 Emperor level powerhouses in the Sky Spill Continent, but definitely no more than 200. As for the number of Life Destruction powerhouses, that was far too difficult to calculate. Wanting to arrange the top ranked of these individuals in a list was extremely difficult.

Li Yifeng chuckled and said, “It naturally isn’t easy, but this Destiny Decree is actually quite accurate. It’s not much of a difference if you’re three or four ranks away from someone, but being 30-40 ranks basically isn’t wrong. The only exceptions are if you come across a massive lucky chance or recently experienced a breakthrough without anything knowing. The Destiny Decree is changed every three years, and is an important factor for the great forces to decide who to win over. As for the four Divine Kingdoms, they often use this ranking list as a way to contrast the quantity and quality of their young elites.

“How young are those martial artists on the list?” Lin Ming emphasized the word ‘young’.

“Relatively young. For a Life Destruction powerhouse, even 50 years old is considered young. To be ranked on the list at 50 years of age isn’t easy at all! Most of the martial artists on the ranking list are at least at the fifth or sixth stage of Life Destruction; there are even some abnormal seventh stage Life Destruction monsters. Moreover, these martial artists are all astounding individuals in their generation. If your foundation is poor, you might not make it on even if your cultivation is high!”

As Li Yifeng spoke to here, they finally arrived. He reached out

his hand to knock on Guru Blueway's gate.

With a soft creaking sound, the gate automatically opened.

In the courtyard, the ground was covered with fallen leaves. Underneath the gently falling leaves was a stone table with a checkerboard engraved atop of it. A blue-clothed old man was sitting at the stone table with a pot of boiling tea nearby. He had two black and white board pieces in his hands and his entire body was tense with concentration as he seemed completely focused on his game. From time to time he would lay down alternating black and white pieces; it turned out he was playing chess with himself.

“Oh, it's the Li Family's little baby boy again. Did you come to ask me to be your grunt again?”

The blue-clothed old man laughed. With a wave of his sleeves a pair of thin and elegant teacups suddenly appeared on the table, filled with a light amber tea. From the refreshing fragrance emanating from the tea, this tea was not the... popular... shredded meat tea of the Thatch Region, but a very high quality and exceptional tea.

“Hehe, Uncle Blueway, I came this time to specifically bring you some good things.” Li Yifeng was apparently extremely familiar with this blue-clothed old man. He good-naturedly grinned as he laughed.

As Li Yifeng spoke he took out the ancient dragon carving jade carving from his spatial ring. The blue-clothed old man glanced at

the ancient jade dragon carving but didn't speak; he had already guessed that Li Yifeng had gone shopping at White Dragon Jade Row and had come to ask him for an appraisal.

Li Yifeng was just about to walk forwards but he suddenly stopped in his steps. He swiveled around and saw Zhou Kun arriving along with the others from the street corner.

“Zhou Kun! That brat!” Li Yifeng frowned. Zhou Kun had bought the blood spirit jade bracelets, but Li Yifeng had only bought the ancient dragon jade carving which he didn't even know was real or fake. Even if it were real he would still lose face, and there was no need to mention what it would be like if it were fake. That damned brat had come just to embarrass him.

“Grandmaster Blueway, I brought some good things for you to look at today.” Zhou Kun was all smiles as he approached. He was apparently also familiar with Guru Blueway.

“Yo! Sir Li, what a coincidence meeting you here.” Zhou Kun pretended that he accidentally bumped into Li Yifeng here. His eyes immediately locked onto Li Yifeng's ancient jade dragon carving. “Isn't that the White Dragon Jade Row's ancient jade dragon carving that is priced at 3300 spirit essence stones? Did you come to ask Grandmaster Blueway to appraise that for you?”

Since Zhou Kun had brought the shame game to this level, even the normally tranquil and carefree Li Yifeng had an extremely ugly look plastered on his face. But in front of Grandmaster Blueway, he could only endure this insult.

As Guru Blueway saw Li Yifeng and Zhou Kun in a tiff with each other, he only faintly smiled as he slowly sipped his tea, not saying anything. It was far too common for youths to engage in such disputes. And not to mention youths, but in the ancient jade carving trade, even those old experts would flush with anger with rage as they argued over the authenticity of their treasures.

Zhou Kun snickered and made an inviting gesture with his hands, “Sir Li, since you arrived first?”

At this time, Li Yifeng was holding onto the box containing his ancient jade dragon carving. He could only place it on Guru Blueway’s stone table and say, “Uncle Blueway, this is an ancient jade dragon carving I bought at the White Dragon jade Row. In truth, I don’t dare to confirm that this is a real item. It’s just that I’ve looked at it several times and I had an unbearable itch to buy it. I would like to ask Uncle Blueway to appraise this for me.”

Li Yifeng respectfully opened the box with the ancient jade dragon carving and presented it to Guru Blueway.

Guru Blueway looked at the jade carving and released a wisp of his perception to gently circle around it. He gently traced the ancient jade dragon carving’s scales. After a quarter hour, Guru Blueway finally stopped and said, “This ancient jade dragon carving comes from the hands of a famous expert. But, it’s a bit young; it’s only from a few hundred years ago. There have been some clever methods used to modify the appearance and give off this beautiful look, otherwise there is no way that the fine hairs on the surface would be so stiff. Generally speaking, this is a pretty

good item – it is genuine true essence jade. It is ninth grade true essence jade, and roughly estimating, it should be worth around 800 spirit essence stones.”

As Li Yifeng heard Guru Blueway’s appraisal he looked a bit pained. He originally bought this item without caring if it was real or fake, and it would have been fine if he had it secretly appraised, but now in front of so many people, this was simply a great loss of face. In this circle, buying imitation goods at such a high price was really a laughable matter.

“Brother Li, oh, it really is such a pity. This ancient jade dragon carving really does have a beautiful appearance. If it were me I also might be a bit impulsive and buy it.” Zhou Kun smiled as he gloated at Li Yifeng’s misfortune. But, the surrounding people didn’t say anything, only watching the good play unfold before them.

Zhou Kun’s eyes shined as he took this moment to take out a wood box from his spatial ring. “Grandmaster Blueway, this is a pair of 10,000 year old blood spirit jade bracelets that I just bought. Could you take a look at them?”

“What? Blood spirit jade?” Guru Blueway’s eyebrows shot up. His interest had obviously been stirred up.

Chapter 769 – Guru Blueway’s Appraisal

There was an exceedingly small amount of blood spirit jade in the entire Thatch Region; its conditions for formation were simply too harsh. It needed an ancient guardian beast to swallow the spiritual plant it was protecting, and then die before it was digested and be buried underground for 100,000 thousand years to condense.

Even new jade of this variety was extremely rare; ancient blood spirit jade was nearly extinct.

If it wasn’t for the fact that blood spirit jade’s greatest value lay in its ornamental value and its effects of nourishing the soul weren’t much better than the average wood spirit jade, then this pair of blood spirit jade bracelets could sell for a sky high price of 100,000 spirit essence stones.

Though Guru Blueway was an appraisal grandmaster, even he hadn’t touched real blood spirit jade many times in his life. Now that he heard Zhou Kun actually had such a treasure, how could he not be excited?

He even had the thoughts of buying this pair of jade bracelets afterwards.

“You really have a pair of blood spirit jade bracelets?” Guru Blueway looked at Zhou Kun, his eyes shining.

“I found them at White Dragon jade Row. They are said to come from a 10,000 year gravesite that was just unearthed recently.

Junior has looked roughly looked at them and they should be a 10,000 year old treasure without a doubt.”

“Hurry and let me see!” Guru Blueway impatiently said. To someone at his boundary, he was only inferior to Peerless Emperor powerhouses and quasi Emperors. There were very few things that could arouse his interest to this point.

Seeing Guru Blueway so anxious, Zhou Kun was filled with a great sense of satisfaction. For someone in the ancient jade carving trade, there were few matters as great as having a highly respected expert be so be eager.

Zhou Kun unhurried opened the box, revealing the pair of blood spirit jade bracelets.

As the blood spirit jade bracelets appeared, Guru Blueway’s eyes locked onto them and no longer moved. He had worked with wood spirit jade carvings with so many years and had handled countless varieties of carving. At this point, his accumulated experience was extremely rich. As long as he looked at something he could judge with a general feeling whether this was an old or new item.

And now, looking at the blood spirit jade bracelets in front of him, he could feel the simple rustic breath emanating from it. Without a doubt, this was a treasure from 10,000 years ago!

As Guru Blueway realized this, he became even more excited. He took out a special treasure for the purposes of appraisals; this was also made from wood spirit jade.

Generally speaking, someone at the level of Guru Blueway no longer needed external aid to help in making appraisals. For him to take out such an appraisal treasure proved just how valuable he considered this pair of jade bracelets to be.

“What a beautiful jade pattern, it truly is a treasure from 10,000 years ago!” Guru Blueway praised out loud. Zhou Kun’s smiling face became even wider as he heard Guru Blueway say this. This had more or less confirmed that this pair of blood spirit jade bracelets was the real thing!

Although the others present were smiling along, they were actually extremely jealous. This was an item that could be sold for 30,000 spirit essence stones. Spirit essence stones were only one benefit. The other benefit was that because Zhou Kun bought this pair of blood spirit jade bracelets, his reputation in the jade carving circles would become much more glorious. If this was a treasure that even Guru Blueway would be excited over, the value could be imagined.

Zhou Kun couldn’t help but shoot a glance over at Li Yifeng, revealing a smile that said he had already won. Li Yifeng seemed fairly calm and carefree, but his innermost feelings were beginning to roil with regret. This was a treasure that he had been just a single step away from attaining. After all, in terms of net worth, there was no way for Zhou Kun to compare with him. As long as he wanted to buy it he could have absolutely won the bidding struggle against Zhou Kun.

Unfortunately, he had hesitated at that time...

Li Yifeng didn't blame Lin Ming, nor had he ever thought of blaming Lin Ming. After all, Lin Ming was only a novice that was thoughtlessly giving his opinions. In the end, Li Yifeng only blamed himself for his lack of sight and hesitancy in judgement, thus letting Zhou Kun win the advantage. If his eyes had been as bright and illuminative as a torch and he had been able to immediately determine the authenticity of the item himself, then Lin Ming's words naturally wouldn't have had any impact on him.

Time passed slowly. Then, Guru Blueway's unbelievably anxious face began to slowly calm down even as his eyebrows wrinkled together.

As all these changes fell in Zhou Kun's eyes, his heart skipped a beat. What was the matter? Was there a problem?

Li Yifeng's heart stirred. Was there a problem with the jade bracelets? An imperfection? A crack? Perhaps they were... a fake?

Even Li Yifeng couldn't believe it if it were a fake. It was impossible to fake such a beautiful jade pattern. Moreover, Guru Blueway had already affirmed from the start that this object was from 10,000 years ago.

After half an hour passed, Guru Blueway deeply sighed and lifted his head. At that moment, Zhou Kun felt his heart wither into nothing. With his current wealth, it could be said that he had staked everything he had on these expensive blood spirit jade bracelets. Now he could be considered as dead broke. If there was

any problems with these jade bracelets then all his work in the past would be wasted; he would never recover from the initial capital he plunked down for them.

“Grandmaster Blueway, how about it?” Zhou Kun nervously asked, his heart caught in his throat.

Guru Blueway slowly swept over everyone. He actually didn’t immediately answer, which made Zhou Kun nervous to the point of wanting to vomit blood. As for everyone else, they were also unbelievably tense. On one hand they hoped to see the ancient blood spirit jade that was nearly impossible to find, but on the other hand they didn’t want to see Zhou Kun make such a great deal; their feelings could be called contradictory.

“This thing... truly is from 10,000 years ago.” Guru Blueway finally said after a long silence. However, these words by themselves weren’t enough to calm the panic in Zhou Kun’s heart. If Guru Blueway said this early then that obviously meant there was some problem.

Of course, there was undoubtedly a problem with these jade bracelets, otherwise Guru Blueway would have never made such an expression. Now Zhou Kun only hoped that Guru Blueway would only say that there were minor defects that wouldn’t greatly affect the value so he wouldn’t lose too much money.

“Unfortunately...” Guru Blueway shook his head, making Zhou Kun’s heart chill to icy temperatures.

“These bracelets are not fake, and they are extremely valuable and ancient jade bracelets. However, they are not blood spirit jade, thus the value is greatly reduced.”

Guru Blueway's words were like a bath of cold water poured on everyone. Zhou Kun felt his surroundings go dark and he nearly fainted.

“It isn't blood spirit jade? How could that be possible!?”

Zhou Kun had already repeatedly confirmed his appraisal again and again. He had worried that this was new blood spirit jade instead of ancient blood spirit jade. However, learning that this was another type of jade masquerading as blood spirit jade was like being struck by a bolt of lightning on a clear summer day!

Zhou Kun could not be compared with Li Yifeng. Li Yifeng was a Prince and he had an excellent future awaiting him. But, Zhou Kun was a failed High Prince successor and the resources he was assigned were extremely limited. The spirit essence stones he had used to buy the blood spirit jade just now were the entirety of his savings. Once he lost it, it would be immensely difficult to recover from such damage. It would even cause him to lack training resources in the future.

Guru Blueway said, “Sir Zhou, these jade bracelets are made from corpse jade. Corpse jade is wood spirit jade that is buried in the mouth of a tomb owner, or perhaps sealed in their stomach. After tens of thousands of years, the blood of the martial artist permeates into the jade. This sort of jade is very similar to blood spirit jade and is also exceedingly rare. Corpse jade originally had

only minor differences with blood spirit jade, and once a martial artist skilled in corpse techniques and a wood-attribute martial artist join forces, they can skillfully transform this corpse jade into something that is nearly impossible to distinguish from real blood spirit jade. Let alone you, it's even hard for old me to clearly identify it unless I'm paying attention. This is also the first time that I've seen corpse jade disguised as blood spirit jade."

Guru Blueway's words could be regarded as sentencing this pair of 'blood spirit jade bracelets' to death.

Li Yifeng felt a chill crawl up his spine. Good heavens! He had almost been the one to fall into this deathtrap!

Such a marvelous and clever method of fraud! Even if his sight was ten times better, he feared that he still wouldn't be able to see through it!

15,000 spirit essence stones was an amount that would strain even Li Yifeng's resources. Moreover, those old men in his family had originally been opposed to him playing around in the ancient jade carving trade to begin with. Although these sorts of items were capable of nourishing the soul, being addicted to such games would also ruin his will and mind. If they knew that Li Yifeng had lost 15,000 spirit essence stones because of this, the consequences could be imagined!

"That was a close call, how dangerous! If I really got screwed here and that insane Murong girl actually reported me to the higher ups, I fear even my legs would be taken away!"

As Li Yifeng was gasping in fear, his mind suddenly stirred and he looked to Lin Ming at his side. Lin Ming had a calm expression as if he wasn't affected at all by these blood spirit jade bracelets being fakes. It was reasonable to say that this matter was greatly related to Lin Ming. If Guru Blueway had determined that these jade bracelets were fakes, then Lin Ming should have breathed out a sigh of relief. Since he was so calm, that could only be because he had known these jade bracelets were fakes all along!

Things began to make more sense. If a normal person didn't know anything about jade carvings, they certainly wouldn't stick their nose into such an important trade. After all, that was a transaction involving 15,000 spirit essence stones. Luckily, his suggestion had been right, otherwise it would be difficult for him to absolve himself of guilt.

Since Lin Ming dared to speak out then he must have had a certain assurance in himself. As Li Yifeng remembered the warning Lin Ming had given him about the ancient jade dragon carving, he realized that these two matters together absolutely couldn't be a coincidence!

That Knifescar fellow who gave Lin Ming the White Dragon Jade Card must have done so not because he thought Lin Ming was some brain-addled money machine, but because he admired Lin Ming's keen eyesight.

As Li Yifeng thought of this, he asked, "Brother Lin, you already knew those jade bracelets were fakes?"

“I just had a strange feeling. Those bracelets didn’t feel too good to me.” Lin Ming faintly smiled, giving a short explanation. His words were vague to begin with but in fact he didn’t need to explain anyway; Li Yifeng would think as he wished to.

Li Yifeng didn’t press the matter further. Whether it was some mystical sixth sense or whether it was something else that Lin Ming didn’t wish to speak about, everyone had their own secrets. The power of the stars sealed in Li Yifeng’s right hand was also a secret of his.

“Brother Lin, your brother me has received your gratitude this time. You mentioned earlier that you wanted to buy wood spirit jade. If you have any need for help, I will assist you as best as I can.”

“Mm, okay.” Lin Ming didn’t turn down the offer. In the future if he wanted to practice alchemy he would need a massive amount of materials and wood spirit jade. Collecting all of that would be slow by himself. Li Yifeng’s help would save a great deal of trouble.

At this time, Zhou Kun had been shocked into a daze. Playing in the wood spirit jade carving trade was an enormous risk to begin with, he couldn’t go looking for trouble with the White Dragon Jade Row. The White Dragon Jade Row relied on selling fakes to make a living, otherwise they would never have sold real goods at such lower prices. If one wished to buy goods at such low prices, they naturally needed to mentally prepare themselves to be tricked. These were the rules of the Jade Row and also the unspoken rules of the jade carving trade. If he went to look for trouble then not only would he not be compensated, but others

would laugh at him instead as someone playing games beyond their means.

Chapter 770 – Opening the Universe Melting Furnace

As Li Yifeng saw Zhou Kun's depressed appearance, he didn't relish it at all. Instead, all he felt was pity.

But near Li Yifeng, Qing'er muttered in soft voice, "If you can't afford the game then don't play, this idiot has really left me speechless."

Guru Blueway shook his head and said, "Sir Zhou, you shouldn't play in the ancient jade carving trade. Although wood spirit jade has the effect of nourishing the soul, the high price far outstrips its use. Generally speaking, it simply isn't the proper way to go about things. Although this pair of bracelets is simply an imitation, corpse jade is still quite valuable. It should be able to sell for 4000 to 5000 spirit essence stones at an auction house. It would be wiser if Sir Zhou were to sell them off and use the money to practice in serenity."

4000 to 5000 spirit essence stones... that was a full 10,000 less essence stones than what Zhou Kun had bid for these jade bracelets. Zhou Kun was truly unwilling to sell these corpse jade bracelets and withdraw from the ancient jade carving trade.

The greater the hope, the greater the disappointment. The loss of the blood spirit jade bracelets had been a tremendous attack on Zhou Kun's psyche.

Li Yifeng shrugged and said to Lin Ming, "Brother Lin, those

three items you bought should be real. Do you plan on selling them to buy more wood spirit jade?”

Lin Ming nodded, “Yes, I need a great deal of wood spirit jade.”

“Then we should have Grandmaster Blueway appraise them! With a grandmaster’s appraisal they will be far easier to sell at a higher price.” Li Yifeng rubbed his hands in excitement. He certainly didn’t want to miss a chance to open his eyes like this.

However, Lin Ming actually shook his head and said, “No, I want to directly place them in the auction house and have the appraisal masters look at them. I don’t wish to arouse any unnecessary interest.”

Lin Ming had already been banned from White Dragon Jade Row; from now on, he could forget about stepping into any other White Dragon Jade Row branch store. He didn’t want to make a name for himself and ruin his method of acquiring money. In the ancient jade carving business, news travelled far too fast.

Li Yifeng felt a bit regretful in his heart. But, since this was what Lin Ming decided, he naturally had no complaints, “Brother Lin, if you trust me then I can help you handle those three items and completely change them into spirit essence stones for you.”

“Thank you Brother Li.” Lin Ming couldn’t ask for a better solution. He was pressed for time and didn’t have much energy left over to deal with these trivial matters.

.....

Li Yifeng was extremely efficient. In a mere 10 days, all three items had been completely changed into spirit essence stones. After removing the cut that the auction house took, there was a total of 22,000 spirit essence stones. And at this time, Lin Ming had already arrived at the largest city in the Thatch Region – Jade City.

The buildings in Jade City were all built from large chunks of rocks, and these rocks hadn't been carved or polished much either. There was a very distinctive barbaric and wild taste to the city.

Behind Jade City was a 10,000 foot high perilous mountain peak named the Jade Mountain. Lin Ming's current dwelling was located here. Cut out of this perilous mountain were several hundred cave mansions. Every cave mansion could be used to close up in training and the origin energy here was also very rich. One could rent a vacancy as long as they had enough spirit essence stones.

Lin Ming rented a medium-sized cave mansion for three years.

Lin Ming didn't care about the origin energy in the cave mansion. What he cared about was the security here. According to Li Yifeng, there was a Divine Sea Supreme Elder personally guarding Jade City; no one dared to come here to cause trouble. If he closed up here he could do so in peace.

At this time, Lin Ming was sitting down on a stone bed in his cave mansion and had a small, three foot high furnace in front of him.

Carved on the surface of the pill furnace was a circle of heaven that contained all the myriad creatures of the universe. At the very center of this design was a red Golden Crow image.

This furnace was the Cosmic Melting Furnace. The Cosmic Melting Furnace used to be the top divine furnace of the Sky Spill Continent several tens of thousands of years ago. Even an Emperor powerhouse could be refined within it.

Currently, Lin Ming had laid down eight blazing flame columns. Every flaming column had a statue of a carved horned dragon within it, and these eight horned dragons were all aimed at the Cosmic Melting Furnace.

Lin Ming, with the help of Demonshine, had reformed the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array that the Demon Emperor had once arranged around the Cosmic Melting Furnace. On this day, he planned on completely opening the Cosmic Melting Furnace.

In the past, Lin Ming had only been able to open the first level of space of the Cosmic Melting Furnace. But according to Demonshine, the Cosmic Melting Furnace had a total of three different levels. Since Lin Ming now planned on officially using the Cosmic Melting Furnace, it was necessary for him to open all three spaces.

Lin Ming lifted his hand and formed a seal. Waves of burnished dawn light began to spout out from the mouths of the horned dragons, covering the pill furnace and causing a burning hot flame to instantly burn.

“Open!”

Lin Ming shouted loudly. On the surface of the Cosmic Melting Furnace, brilliant rays of golden light suddenly began emitting from the Golden Crow image. For a time, it was like a sun had risen within the room, blinding all eyes.

The Cosmic Melting Furnace fiercely shook, and a high-pitched dragon roar seemed to issue out from the furnace. The sound waves flushed into the sound-insulating enchantment of the room, causing the entire place to shake as if it could collapse at any moment.

Then, a fist-sized fruit and a golden red root flew out from the Cosmic Melting Furnace and were immediately grabbed by Lin Ming.

He had finally opened the second level of the Cosmic Melting Furnace!

With Lin Ming’s current strength, opening the second level of the Cosmic Melting Furnace wasn’t difficult at all. What would be difficult was opening the third level. The Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array had been prepared especially for that purpose.

“A Five Color Fruit and Void Temper Root! Hehe, boy, you’ve made it rich again!” Demonshine’s voice sounded out in Lin Ming’s mind. There were treasures in every level of the Cosmic Melting Furnace. When he had opened the first level of space, Giant Demon

blood and a Nameless Divine Pill refined with a Nirvana Dragon Root had popped out.

The blood of the Giant Demon had been absorbed by the Magic Cube. As for that Nameless Divine Pill, Lin Ming had swallowed it when he had been trapped in the King's Cage and was struggling to find a way out. The Nameless Divine Pill had fused together with the Asura force field, and together with the collision from a Demon God Bone, it had allowed him to completely break through the first gate of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates.

Now, the Five Color Fruit and Void Temper Root that Demonshine spoke of were the treasures from the Cosmic Melting Furnace's second level of space.

As for what the treasures in the Cosmic Melting Furnace had been, even Demonshine hadn't been sure. Lin Ming could only search through the soul fragment of the Demon Emperor to find incomplete clues.

"I remember from the Realm of the Gods alchemist's memories that Five Color Fruit and Void Temper Root are both high level heavenly materials used for alchemy. With these two things as the main source of medicine, in addition to some supporting herbs and wood spirit jade, I should be able to create a miracle medicine capable of opening the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates."

Lin Ming couldn't bother thinking about these matters at this time. He revolved his true essence to the limit and then pointed at the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array. The flames suddenly fanned into a blazing conflagration.

The Cosmic Melting Furnace violently trembled within the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array. It was as if there was some ancient vicious beast trapped with the furnace that was ready to rush out at any given moment.

Lin Ming released the Heretical God Force as he simultaneously activated the strength of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. Between Lin Ming's eyebrows, the phoenix flame mark there began to blaze out with a golden light as sharp as a sword.

Bang!

With an explosion, the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array's eight flame columns all collapsed at once. The Cosmic Melting Furnace's lid shot up like a meteor, straight into the air.

Kacha!

The lid heavily smashed into the Jade Mountain cave mansion, causing a large portion of the array formation-reinforced rock to shear off!

Lin Ming's face flushed red with blood. He looked at the two items suspended in the air. Neither of these items looked like miracle medicines. One was a completely jet black demon armor, and the other was a mass of thick, viscous blood.

Chapter 771 – Heavencraft Trading Company

When Demonshine saw the mass of blood, his shifty little eyes immediately brightened. “I want that blood!”

Lin Ming swept his mind over the blood. The blood was similar to the blood from the first level of the Cosmic Melting Furnace; both of them exuded an ancient energy. Thus, the should be blood of the Ancient Giant Demons. In terms of quality, it was far from being comparable to Ancient Phoenix Blood, but it was still extremely precious.

“Alright.”

Lin Ming wasn't stingy. To Demonshine, who only had his soul form left, the power of this blood essence was the only way for him to recover. During the past years, Demonshine had helped him a great deal, and had even saved his life several times.

Demonshine hurriedly leapt out from Lin Ming's spiritual sea, turned into a small red curly-haired dog, and plunged towards the mass of Ancient Giant Demon blood. He immediately swallowed it whole.

With a contented sigh, Demonshine's dog-like face revealed an extremely satisfied expression.

After swallowing the blood, Demonshine's entire body flushed

red. Afterwards, his originally vague and distorted body became much more solid.

This continued for half an incense sticks worth of time. After it stopped, Demonshine used his paws to pat his belly, and burped loudly. “Awesome, so awesome! 10 more jin of this stuff would be great!”

Lin Ming faintly smiled, shaking his head. It was already quite good to have two taels of this blood, but this damned dog actually wanted 10 jin.

He pointed at the black demon armor floating in the air and asked, “Demonshine, can you tell me what this demon armor is?”

Lin Ming’s inherited memories from the Demon Emperor were mostly incomplete; he had no memories about this demon armor.

Demonshine licked his lips and replied, “That’s the demon armor that Master personally forged when he was still on the Sky Spill Continent. Tens of thousands of years ago, there was an epoch where countless rivals and heroes rose up in unison, with new legends being created daily. Master’s strength was unparalleled in that world, however, there were still opponents that could threaten him. For instance...the deep sea races!”

Lin Ming nodded in understanding. On this world, the boundless sea’s size was far greater than the land mass. There were an immeasurable amount of things that lived inside of the deep sea, including many diverse and interesting races. There were even

races from the ancient desolate era, who had bloodline legacies far surpassing that of humanity.

In this situation, the number of deep sea race powerhouses that existed far surpassed that of humanity. If it weren't for the fact that the deep sea races were more suited for living deep underwater, and couldn't survive long on land, then they probably would've probably engaged in a never-ending war with humanity.

Demonshine continued, "Master fought with his deep sea race opponents for a long time, before eventually even this demon armor was pierced through, with Master barely managing to defeat his enemy in the face of countless dangers. Because the demon armor had been pierced, Master decided to keep the demon armor inside of the Cosmic Melting Furnace and repair it. However, the time required to repair the demon armor was extremely long. By the time that Master left this world, the demon armor still hadn't been fully repaired. However, tens of thousands of years have passed now, and this demon armor has finally repaired itself inside of the Cosmic Melting Furnace. Not only has it been fixed, its grade is now even higher than it was in the past. That Giant Demon blood I just absorbed should've been left behind by master in order to help repair the demon armor; it's simply that the demon armor didn't use all of it up."

"So that's how it is..."

Lin Ming reached out his hand and grasped hold of the demon armor. Then, he discovered that there was a circular gap missing in the left chest region of the demon armor.

Such a uniform gap was clearly not caused by a weapon piercing through it. This area should've been where the heartguard mirror was placed.

“The heartguard mirror is missing?”

“Looks like it.” Demonshine shook his head, a bit regretful. “If it were the complete demon armor, then it's value would be no less than the Cosmic Melting Furnace. After all, there aren't many defensive treasures on its level out there.”

Lin Ming bluntly put on the armor. For a time, he felt a demonic energy wrap around his body, fusing with his bodily protective true essence, causing it to be even firmer and more tenacious than it was before.

“Oh? It had this sort of effect?”

“Of course. Good armor isn't just tough, it also has a top class ability to reduce injuries. If one's armor isn't able to weaken an enemy's attacks, then it's useless no matter how solid it is!”

Many martial artists' attacks had penetrative properties. Simply defending against the physical strike of their weapons wasn't enough; one also needed to defend against the hidden energy behind it.

“What do you plan on doing with the Five Color Fruit and the Void Tempered Root?” Demonshine asked.

“The Five Color Fruit and Void Tempered Root are both high level heavenly materials. I plan to use them for the base of a pill I’ll make soon. I’ll also add a 200,000 year wood spirit jade, dragonspine grass, and finally skyflower stones to act as the catalyst, to concoct a Fivefade Void Pill. That should be enough for me to open the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates.”

“Hehe, if you reach the large success realm of your alchemy technique, then not only will it enhance your soul, but your body’s transformation progress rise will at an astronomical rate. Who wouldn’t be jealous of this? However, the Fivefade Void Pill is a pretty high ranking recipe; do you have the confidence to successfully refine it?”

“Not at the moment, but I can slowly practice until I can. I’m not in too much of a hurry. Practicing alchemy is also a way to temper the soul.”

Lin Ming’s inherited memories from the Realm of the Gods alchemist were relatively complete, including even the precious experiences and skills that he’d studied. However, just this alone wasn’t enough. While Lin Ming’s knowledge was sufficient, he still lacked coordination between his body, soul, energy, and mind.

This was akin to a zither master that had never played a zither song before. Even if they knew the music by heart, and knew perfectly well how to play the music, they still wouldn’t be able to perfectly interpret the song on their first try. This was simply because their fingers wouldn’t be able to keep up with their mind.

What Lin Ming had to do right now was constantly practice, so that his body could memorize the use of alchemical skills. Every time he touched the energy, his control of the flame... all of it had to become a conditioned reflex. He had to be able to put on a perfect performance without thinking. This was the only way for him to achieve the highest chance of successfully refining a pill.

“Where do you plan on finding dragonspine grass or skyflower stones?” Demonshine asked.

“I’ll look for Li Yifeng.” Lin Ming had already thought of this.

Li Yifeng was a Prince of the Seven Star Divine Kingdom who usually loved to make new friends; he should know all sorts of people. In addition, he had connections to many of the four Divine Kingdom’s domestic intelligence networks, so asking him for information would be both the fastest and most efficient way.

And Li Yifeng did not disappoint him. Just ten days later, he returned with news.

Ho-!

The flames of a sound transmitting talisman flashed in front of Lin Ming, causing him to immediately stop working on the pill he was currently refining. The only thing inside of the pill furnace was a pile of black ash.

He ruefully smiled. The Cosmic Melting Furnace’s heat was just

too intense. Trying to practice with low level medicinal herbs that couldn't stand up to these sort of burning hot temperatures was truly a great challenge.

During the past few days, he'd spent a third of the spirit essence stones he'd gained from the White Dragon Jade Row, all to buy wood spirit jade.

The medicinal herbs he'd been using for practice came from the medicine gardens of the South Sea Demon Region, and the Yin Yang Profound Palace. At this point, he'd used up 20% of the medicinal herbs, but the amount of successfully refined products were a pitifully low number. Usually, all he did was create pile after pile of black ash.

"If the Xing couple from the Yin Yang Profound Palace learned that their carefully grown medicinal herbs were all being used by me, just for practicing alchemy, I wonder just what sort of faces they'd make." Lin Ming shook his head, laughing at himself. He'd been rapidly burning through his money these past days. Although he called these medicinal herbs low leveled, the truth was, they were enough to make a martial artist go crazy with greed if they were placed in a third-grade sect.

"Lin Ming, what does the sound transmitting talisman say?" Demonshine asked.

"It's from Li Yifeng. He told me the whereabouts of skyflower stones. Apparently, they can be bought at the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Heavencraft Trading Company. As for dragonspine grass, he still hasn't found any information."

“Alright. Then, what do you plan on doing now?”

“We’re going to the Heavencraft Trading Company first!”

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The Heavencraft Trading Company was located in Witch Creek City, which was within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. It had a 6,000 year old history, an inheritance that surpassed most fourth and fifth-grade sects, and was able to stand on the same level as some Holy Lands.

The Heavencraft Trading Company was one of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom’s three great trading companies, and had a very deep background.

For the Heavencraft Trading Company to have developed to this level, and in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom at that, inevitably meant that they were inextricably linked with the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom’s royal family.

When Lin Ming entered Witch Creek City, where the Heavencraft Trading Company Headquarters were located, he didn’t even need to ask around to see the location of the Headquarters building. This was simply because the building stood out so much.

High in the sky there was a garret that rose hundreds of feet into

in the air, and was over a thousand feet wide. It was actually floating there, suspended in midair. Around the garret were traces of faint purple smoke that shone underneath the bright sunlight; it was obvious that all of this was due to an array formation.

Keeping such a massive garret suspended in the air likely took a massive amount of spirit essence stones every year. From this alone, one could see just how deep the Heavencraft Trading Company's wealth was.

Lin Ming quietly waved his sleeves and flew upwards. But when he did, he discovered that there were invisible fluctuations that covered the sky. These fluctuations formed a kind of resistance, hindering Lin Ming's movements as he approached the Heavencraft Trading Company. Lin Ming was slightly miffed. If he could feel this resistance, than others certainly could as well. How did this place even do business? Did they meet with their customers outside?

The higher Lin Ming flew, the more obvious the resistance became. By the time that Lin Ming had finally reached the entrance to the Heavencraft Trading Company, he'd come to an understanding that there were stipulations to enter this trading company. A martial artist with an extreme Xiantian cultivation, or perhaps someone that had just entered the early Revolving Core, or possibly even an early Revolving Core martial artist with an unstable foundation; none of these people would be able to enter the Heavencraft Trading Company.

And, even if they could, they'd have to exhaust all of their strength to do so, thus shaming themselves. There was no way that

they'd have any face to enter the trading company afterwards. What kind of store was this, where one had to fight just to enter? If just entering once was like this, it was doubtful that many people would return.

This meant that the Heavencraft Trading Company slammed their doors in front of all martial artists below the Revolving Core realm. This should also be the reason why their trading company's headquarters was suspended in midair.

To stay suspended in the sky already gave off a lofty and grandiose feeling. Coupled with the fact that they denied to serve all martial artists below the Revolving Core realm... this was enough to establish just how high quality a business the Heavencraft Trading Company was.

As Lin Ming walked up the steps of the Heavencraft Trading Company, he saw a large black sign hung proudly above the 50 feet tall gates. There had been two highly-stylized words written on it with a large, thick brush—'Heavencraft Pavilion'.

These two words held faint traces of Concepts and Laws imbued within them. And on both sides of the high gates, there were also more accompanying words.

These words were simple:

'Only treasures sold, no common things.'

‘Only powerhouses accepted, no entry for the mediocre.’

“How audacious!” Lin Ming was speechless. This Heavencraft Trading Company was really crazy. Did this mean that every single person who couldn’t enter the Heavencraft Pavilion was a mediocre person?

As he walked towards the Heavencraft Pavilion, the gatekeepers had already opened the doors, gesturing invitingly towards Lin Ming.

In the spacious lobby, there weren’t many visitors; it seemed somewhat deserted and lonely. This was also within his expectations. After all, the Heavencraft Trading Company didn’t rely on the volume of its transactions to succeed.

“This Young Hero, may I ask what requests you have?” Every visitor to the Heavencraft Trading Company would be approached by a beautiful young maid, who would then give them one-on-one service. The young girl responsible for assisting Lin Ming seemed to be around 18 or 19 years old. Her slender figure was very tall; she was only a bit shorter than Lin Ming.

“I would like to purchase skyflower stones.” Lin Ming directly stated.

Chapter 772 – Skyflower Stones

“Skyflower stones?” The young maid asked, stunned. These were extremely rare objects. Heavencraft Pavilion had just managed to obtain several skyflower stones recently. Because they were high level alchemy materials, they were very popular in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, and their price was also correspondingly sky high.

She never thought that Lin Ming, who seemed so young, who immediately ask for skyflower stones.

The young maid hesitated for a moment, suspecting that Lin Ming was simply messing around and just wanted to see the beautiful skyflower stones. Then, he would just make an excuse and decide not to buy them.

Although she had her doubts she still reported this information over. A moment later, a black-clothed old woman walked down from upstairs.

The black-clothed old woman narrowed her eyes as she sized up Lin Ming. With her experience she could naturally see that Lin Ming’s foundation was exceedingly stable. In addition to his age and cultivation, he should definitely be some extraordinary junior of his generation.

This sort of person truly might be able to afford skyflower stones.

“This little brother, please come along with me.”

The old woman turned around and walked upstairs with Lin Ming following close behind her. As Lin Ming stepped onto the staircase, he discovered that between the floors of Heavencraft Pavilion, there were actually invisible layers of resistance similar to when he was flying up. Except, the resistance from this level to the next was twice as much. Perhaps even a normal early Revolving Core martial artist wouldn't be able to walk up.

When he turned around to look at the young maid behind him, he saw that she had a shining token on her waist. It was clear that this token let this Houtian level maid freely traverse the Heavencraft Pavilion.

There were even less people on the Heavencraft Pavilion's second floor. After Lin Ming sat down, two maids set a plate of snacks down in front of him. Not too far away from Lin Ming, there was a red-clothed old man sitting down at another table. This red-clothed old man had a second stage Life Destruction cultivation.

The old man was holding a teacup in one hand while slowly fiddling with a cover in the other. He glanced up at Lin Ming, all smiles.

Lin Ming nodded politely in return. This red-clothed old man should also be a guest of the Heavencraft Pavilion.

At this time, from a side hall of the second floor, a purple-veiled slender woman walked out. "Two guests, you've waited for a long time."

Her melodious voice that was like tinkling bells immediately attracted both Lin Ming and the old man's attention.

The woman looked to be just over 20 years old, and although she had veil over her face, one could clearly make out that the woman underneath was a simple yet exquisite beauty. Her stature was elegant, and her skin glittered like a translucent crystal. She was a stunning specimen of femininity that was easy for others to be lost in.

The woman opened her mouth and said, "I've heard that both honored guests are here to purchase skyflower stones. The truth is, these skyflower stones only arrived at the Heavencraft Pavilion's Headquarters five days ago, yet 20-30 people have already come to see them. However, no one has been able to purchase them. This is mainly because...."

As the purple-clothed woman spoke up to here, she smiled and continued, "This is mainly because these skyflower stones don't belong to our Heavencraft Pavilion, but instead have been placed here on commission by another esteemed guest. This guest wishes to use the skyflower stones to trade for some equally rare materials. If you two honored guests are unable to bring out an item that can satisfy that guest, then no amount of spirit essence stones will be enough."

"Oh, so it's like that. I was wondering why such valuable alchemical materials had remained within the Heavencraft Pavilion for so long. May I inquire as to which martial cultivator it was? Perhaps this old man might know him!" The red-clothed old

man asked as he stroked his beard, smiling. He obviously had the intention of trading for the skyflower stones by directly establishing his relationship with the owner.

The purple-clothed spoke with no intentions of hiding the truth, “It’s Grandmaster Zhuan Bixian.”

“Zhuan Bixian!” The red-clothed old man revealed a look of shock, “So it’s Grandmaster Zhuan Bixian, who’s ranked in the Destiny Decree’s top 150! Then, this is truly out of this old man’s league.”

The red-clothed old man shook his head over and over again.

From the Houtian realm to the Life Destruction realm, the difference was only equal to a single boundary within the Life Destruction realm. This was also the reason that there was such a huge disparity in strength between martial artists of different stages in the Life Destruction realm. The red-clothed old man was at the second stage of Life Destruction; that was an entire four boundaries away from the sixth stage Life Destruction Zhuan Bixian. Not just that, but every boundary within the Life Destruction stage carried with it an enormous risk of death.

This caused the red-clothed old man’s status difference with Zhuan Bixian to be even greater than a Xiantian realm martial artist and Revolving Core martial artist in the South Horizon Region. Especially since this Zhuan Bixian was a master listed on the Destiny Decree.

As the red-clothed old man spoke, a handsome 17 to 18 year old youth stepped down from the stairs. He faintly looked over Lin Ming and the red-clothed old man, then said, “I am Grandmaster Zhuan’s disciple. Grandmaster’s time is precious, so if you have any precious treasures that you’d like to trade with, please bring them out for me too look at.”

This handsome youth was young, but his tone of voice was quite arrogant. His words carried a hint of superiority and impatience. In truth, this was also understandable. During the past days, dozens of guests had come to the Heavencraft Pavilion to personally request the skyflower stones. Every time this happened, this youth would have to come downstairs to meet them. He’d run down here over and over again, yet no one had been able to bring out anything that could attract his attention. How could anyone else not be impatient at this point?

The red-clothed man laughed, thinking little of it. He sent a true essence sound transmission towards the handsome youth. If he dared to come here to buy skyflower stones, then he naturally had to have some valuable possessions to trade with, and was currently listing them out to the youth.

After the handsome youth finished listening to the red-clothed old man, his face changed and he icily said, “I apologize, but my Master already has many of these things, and has no interest in obtaining any more of them. In fact, his are even more precious.”

The red-clothed old man’s smile froze on his face. The handsome youths haughty and indifferent tone obviously brooked no room for negotiation.

Lin Ming watched all of this happen while thinking about it. He'd expected this. After all, a Revolving Core martial artist wouldn't have any interest in the possessions of a Xiantian martial artist.

“And you?”

The handsome youth glanced over at Lin Ming. When he saw that Lin Ming only had a Revolving Core level of cultivation, he didn't hold out much hope that Lin Ming would have anything interesting.

Lin Ming was silent for a moment. He'd been thinking about what items he could bring out that would interest Zhuan Bixian. In fact, he did have a great number of incomparably valuable treasures that could interest him. For instance, the heaven-step Demon God's Bone, the Concept of Fire jade slips from Timeworn Phoenix City, the remaining six drops of Ancient Phoenix Blood, the Void Tempered Root, the Five Color Fruit, and so on.

However, it was naturally impossible for Lin Ming to take these items out. And even if he did, it wasn't something that just some skyflower stones could possibly trade for.

After deducting these items, Lin Ming's leftover possessions weren't very valuable.

Seeing that Lin Ming hadn't spoken, the handsome youth appeared a bit annoyed. “Do you have anything or not? If you don't, then please don't waste my time; I'm very busy.”

As Zhuan Bixian's direct disciple, the handsome youth had a bit of a sense of superiority. Lin Ming didn't seem much older than him, and no matter what angle he looked at it from, it was impossible that someone so young could be a true customer of the skyflower stones. This sort of top alchemical material could normally only be purchased by an older, more powerful alchemist.

Lin Ming faintly smiled, finally remembering something. He replied, "I do have something, but I fear that you won't be able to recognize it, and thus won't be able to complete the transaction."

The handsome youth deeply frowned. He glumly said, "I might be young, but I've followed Master ever since I was a child. I've had to remember a massive number of materials every day. I've read countless ancient books detailing heavenly materials from the four Divine Kingdoms. Underneath the heavens and earth, I dare to say that there's nothing I won't be able to recognize. If I can't recognize something, then that item would be something that even a Divine Sea Supreme Elder wouldn't want to have, and you naturally wouldn't either. If you have anything then take it out. I fear that whatever you think might be precious and rare, as you're saying, will just be an ordinary good in my eyes!"

The handsome youth had a good deal of experience and insight, otherwise Zhuan Bixian would never have sent him here to supervise the transaction.

"Alright." Lin Ming nodded, and calmly took out a jade box from his spatial ring. When he opened the jade box, one could see a red plant with a meat-like consistency. On top of its roots was a

distorted face; it looked like a ghost that was being tortured.

Underneath the face was a fist-sized crown of meat that was pulsating like a rapidly beating heart. The entire plant looked like a mouse that had just been born; it's flesh was a light yellowish-pink, and there were also some light hairs decorating it. It was an atrocious thing that was quite difficult to look at.

Zi zi zi!

When the handsome youth saw this plant he paused, completely stunned. Was this a plant or an animal? How could something grow into such a disgusting, nauseating appearance? And what was this even called? It was simply too bizarre to the extreme.

“This item, would Grandmaster Zhuan need it? I'd like to ask you to appraise it for me.”

Lin Ming pushed the jade box forwards the handsome youth. This plant was the 10,000 Year Old Corpse Grass that Lin Ming had found in the Eternal Demon Abyss.

10,000 Year Old Corpse Grass was similar to caterpillar fungus from the mortal world. It was a parasitic plant that would attach itself to the corpse of an Emperor level powerhouse, and would then use the skeleton as nourishment. As it grew, it would have to constantly devour the vitality of martial artists in order to mature.

When Lin Ming had adventured into the Eternal Demon Abyss,

he'd seen Highlord Sandlight and Highlord Sky Eye trick and kill their companions, turning them into flesh and blood sacrifices for the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass. They did so in order to feed the plant until it was satiated, and to let it then enter a deep hibernative state where it would be easier to capture.

Finally, Highlord Sandlight and Highlord Sky Eye had tried to kill Lin Ming, and were in turn turned into nourishment for the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass. Thus, the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass had fallen into Lin Ming's hands.

This was something that could only grow in the strange environment of the Eternal Demon Abyss. It was the same as extinct within the entire Sky Spill Continent.

Mainly looking at its wonderfully ugly appearance, coupled with the screeching and harsh sounds it emitted, this created an absolutely shocking effect that left the handsome youth speechless.

In fact, not only was the handsome youth dumbfounded, even the purple-veiled woman and the black-clothed old woman were bewildered. They were both high level figures within the Heavencraft Pavilion. They were both well read, and had experienced with a great number of treasures before.

Still, they'd never seen something like this.

Lin Ming asked, "What does Young Hero think of this?"

The handsome youth didn't reply for the longest time. He didn't even know what this thing was called, much less how valuable it was, so how could he possibly reply to Lin Ming. However, what he could determine from this thing, was that he sure was an animal or plant, it had an extraordinary powerful blood vitality! If it were used to refine a medicinal supplement towards one's life force, it would certainly have miraculous effects.

In the face of Lin Ming's question, the handsome youth was left embarrassed. He had just spoken so proudly of his skills and with such gusto too, and yet in the blink of an eye he encountered something he couldn't identify. The loss of his face here had been immense.

The handsome youth grit his teeth and said, "I'll look for my Master."

Chapter 773 – Malice

After the handsome youth spoke these words he swiveled on the balls of his feet and left the Heavencraft Pavilion Headquarters. In truth, if he'd been looking for Zhuan Bixian, then all he would've needed to do was send a sound transmitting talisman. However, the reason that the handsome youth had left was simply because he didn't have the face to stay any longer.

After the handsome youth had left, the face of red-clothed old man, who'd also wanted to buy skyflower stones, flashed with a strange expression. He looked at the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass and then at Lin Ming, unknown thoughts going through his mind.

As for the old woman of from the Heavencraft Pavilion, she couldn't help but send Lin Ming a true essence sound transmission, "The item that this young hero has taken out is truly quite strange. This old woman has never heard nor seen something like it before. I wonder... if Young Hero has any other strange or peculiar treasures that you don't need, my Heavencraft Pavilion would be more than willing to sell them on commission for you."

Lin Ming replied, "If there's a chance, then I'd like to cooperate. Recently, I've been needing to purchase a great number of things."

The different materials that an alchemist needed were extremely scattered and varied in a cumbersome manner to gather. There were some valuable and precious treasures that simply couldn't be bought. At this time, it was necessary to form good relations with a trading company.

After just a quarter hour, a white-clothed middle aged man was welcomed in by the purple-clothed young girl. As he stepped into the Heavencraft Pavilion's second floor, his great build and piercingly bright eyes swept through the hall before locking onto Lin Ming.

“Is this the young hero who wishes to trade for my skyflower stones?”

This middle-aged martial artist was undoubtedly Zhuan Bixian. When a martial artist reached the Life Destruction realm it became difficult to judge just how old they were from their appearance. For instance, Xuan Yuqie had been over a thousand years old but she appeared to be a graceful and beautiful young woman in her thirties, at the very height of her sexuality.

Lin Ming couldn't decide just how old Zhuan Bixian was, but he could feel a raging fire of life coming from his body. It was obvious that this Zhuan Bixian still had a long life left in front of him and even a faint hope of stepping into the Divine Sea and becoming a Peerless Emperor.

“Senior Zhuan.” Lin Ming stood up and bowed in respect.

“Mm.” Zhuan Bixian nodded and then glanced at the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass that Lin Ming had set down. After a quarter hour of time staring at it, he finally revealed a thoughtful expression and said, “Little Brother, what is your name?”

“I am surnamed Lin, named Lanjian, Lin Lanjian.” Lin Ming

thoughtlessly borrowed a name. He had already decided to step onto the road of an alchemist. In the future he would have to make a number of transactions that involved large amounts of spirit essence stones; it would be better if he kept his true name hidden. Moreover, in the four Divine Kingdoms, it was likely he would come into conflict with certain people or parties. His family and friends were still at Divine Phoenix Island and he didn't want others to go seeking them for nefarious means.

This was the first time that Zhuan Bixian had seen 10,000 Year Corpse Grass. After a period of time, he speculated that it was Yin Corpse Grass. Although it had a different name from Lin Ming's 10,000 Year Corpse Grass, the Sky Spill Continent and Holy Demon Continent were so far apart that it was normal for materials to have different names.

From a list of descriptions that Zhuan Bixian checked through, this Yin Corpse Grass was truly the exact same plant as 10,000 Year Corpse Grass.

Lin Ming didn't think that Zhuan Bixian's experiences would be so broad that he was able to recognize even this 10,000 Year Corpse Grass. He sincerely said, "Grandmaster Zhuan's knowledge is endless, it leaves me in true admiration."

"Haha, When I was still at the Asura Divine Kingdom I accidentally came across a record of this plant in the ancient texts of that kingdom. This is something that no longer exists in the Sky Spill Continent. Perhaps it could be found in certain desolate deep sea islands."

Zhuan Bixian's words surprised Lin Ming. If this didn't exist on the Sky Spill Continent, then how would the ancient texts of the Asura Divine Kingdom have records of Yin Corpse Grass?

It was said that the Asura Divine Kingdom was a land of demonic path martial cultivators. Was it possible that the Asura Divine Kingdom had some sort of relationship with the Demon Emperor or Netherworld Great Emperor who had come from the Holy Demon Continent?

All of these thoughts raced through Lin Ming's mind. But he didn't think too much of it. He asked Zhuan Bixian, "Grandmaster Zhuan, do you have any interest in this Yin Corpse Grass?"

Zhuan Bixian said, "Although Young Hero Lin's Yin Corpse Grass still isn't fully matured, it is still a top ingredient for refining blood type miracle medicines. It is indeed truly useful to me. Though I must say that in all fairness, this Yin Corpse Grass is more precious than all three of my skyflower stones combined. I won't take advantage of a little junior. If you have anything else you might need, then speak it."

Lin Ming was overjoyed as he heard this. He feared that Zhuan Bixian might not show any interest in the 10,000 Year Corpse Grass. "Senior Zhuan, I also happen to need several dragonspine grasses. I wonder if Senior Zhuan has any news about that?"

As Lin Ming finished speaking, Zhuan Bixian laughed out loud, "Dragonspine grass is even more valuable than skyflower stones; perhaps even more valuable than the Yin Corpse Grass you brought out. If I had any news of dragonspine grass I would

certainly rush over myself. Dragonspine grass isn't something that is publically sold; I too want to buy it."

Lin Ming was dazed, and then a bit disappointed. The materials he needed were just too rare. To begin with, they were already difficult to look for, and even if someone were to find it, they would likely use it themselves.

"How about this. I'll give you another 5000 spirit essence stones. How about it?" Zhuan Bixian asked.

"Mm, thank you very much Senior Zhuan." Lin Ming readily agreed. Although 10,000 Year Corpse Grass was indeed rare and precious, it simply didn't have any use to him. Zhuan Bixian's offer was very fair.

The two finished the transaction on the spot. Lin Ming obtained the three crystalline skyflower stones. This sort of stone appeared like absolute white jade, except that there were some small flowery textures on the surface, thus it had gained this name.

Zhuan Bixian paid Heavencraft Pavilion their part of the commission and bid his farewells in a satisfied mood.

Lin Ming also bid Heavencraft Pavilion goodbye. After obtaining a jade card with Heavencraft Pavilion's sound transmission mark he left without speaking to anyone.

Lin Ming flew out at full speed, opening his divine sense to the

limit. After he left Witch Creek City he changed direction several times before finally arriving in a jungle.

At this time, a voice suddenly sounded out from behind Lin Ming. “Young Hero Lin, I didn’t think I would run into you here. Do you plan on heading to the Hail Province? What a coincidence, this old man just happens to be going that way too. Maybe we can travel together?”

Lin Ming turned around to see that the person speaking was that red-clothed old man he had bumped into at Heavencraft Pavilion who also wanted to purchase skyflower tones. At this time, the old man had a friendly smile on his face as if he were surprised to meet Lin Ming here by chance.

“Coincidence? I think not.” Lin Ming faintly smiled at the red-clothed old man. “After I left Witch Creek City I changed directions several times but you still chased after me all this time. What? Is there something you want from me?”

The red-clothed old man’s smile stiffened and he barked out a laugh, “Young Hero Lin is too funny. How could this old man possibly follow you? This truly is a meeting of chance. However, I must say that Young Hero Lin bought up three skyflower stones at once; perhaps you could consider selling one to me? I can offer you 3000 spirit essence stones to buy one of your skyflower stones. How about it?”

“3000 spirit essence stones?” Lin Ming smiled, “If you offered me 30,000 spirit essence stones then I might have considered giving you one.”

“Really...” The red-clothed old man grimaced, “This old man is sincerely trying to make a deal with you and yet you ask for such a ridiculous price. Being too greedy in life may get you in trouble!”

The red-clothed old man said, an obvious threat in his words.

Lin Ming slowly traced his spatial ring. He sneered, “Why do you still waver over these scruples? Are you not attacking me because you’re scared someone is protecting me from behind?”

“Hehe, brat, there’s no need to lie to me. I don’t know which great power you originate from, but what I do know is that if there truly was someone protecting you in secret then you wouldn’t have run out of the city and changed your direction several times in fear that someone might be following you. Those three skyflower stones are far too useful for this old man. If you’re smart then be a good little boy and...”

The red-clothed man suddenly attacked midway in his speech. Although he was a second stage Life Destruction martial artist, he still attacked a late Revolving Core junior with a sneak attack. The red-clothed old man didn’t have a sect or great family backing him. The reason that he could reach this point had all been because of his discretion, cunning, and ruthless decisiveness.

He took out a slender soft sword from his spatial ring. The red sword was like the strike of a viper as it stabbed towards Lin Ming’s throat.

The red-clothed old man's sword was extremely fast. With his own incomparably thick true essence fused into it, it was like a beam of light!

Lin Ming's lips curved up in a murderous grin. He traced his spatial ring and in the next moment a spear light flashed out like a bolt of lightning. In the next moment, there was an explosive sound as if space itself was being torn apart. The red-clothed old man's sword light was crushed to nothing by the spear light, and the spear light continued unabated as it cut towards the red-clothed old man's waist like a deathly guillotine.

“What!?”

The red-clothed old man was beyond shocked. He shouted out in panic and was about to take something about from his spatial ring, but at that moment, he felt his movements suddenly become extremely slow. All he could do was look on helplessly as Lin Ming's spear swept towards his waist.

Peng!

His protective true essence was ripped apart like paper. The red-clothed old man gave a miserable scream as his spine was directly snapped in half and all his organs came flying out. His body was torn in half by Lin Ming's spear.

The red-clothed old man's eyes were wide as he watched all the blood leave his body. He died with nothing but unsatisfied regret to keep him company.

Lin Ming grabbed the red-clothed old man's spatial ring and inventoried the contents. There were 8000-9000 spirit essence stones as well as some wood spirit jade and various pills and medicines and even a furnace.

It was obvious that this old man had been an alchemist.

The four Divine Kingdoms were rich in resources and the martial artists here normally came from well off families. This red-clothed old man was only at the second stage of Life Destruction but he was actually able to catch up to 60-70% of Xuan Wuji's wealth. Of course, this was because he was an alchemist.

Lin Ming put away all these things and then turned towards the empty space in the jungle. He raised his spear and indifferently said, "You've been watching for so long, how about you come out so I can meet you?"

When Lin Ming left Witch Creek City he had felt some people following him. It wasn't one person but two people.

Lin Ming had thought that the two people had been together, but now it seems that wasn't the case.

There was no response from the jungle. Lin Ming sneered and then pointed his spear somewhere in the void. "You think I'm lying to you? I'll say it once more, come out! Otherwise I'll stab you!"

“Wait! Young Hero Lin, stay your hand!” An old voice sounded out. Then, space distorted and a black-clothed old woman rushed out in a panic. She was the old woman Lin Ming had seen at Heavencraft Pavilion.

“Oh? Is this how your Heavencraft Pavilion does business?” A thick killing intent flashed in Lin Ming’s eyes.

“Young Hero Lin, please don’t misunderstand me, the situation isn’t what you think it is. My Heavencraft Trading Company is one of the three great trading companies of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. How could I think of destroying our reputation for a mere three skyflower stones?” The old woman rapidly explained. Her words were also fairly reasonable. The Heavencraft Trading Company had existed for 6000 years. If they really did send out assassins to kill and rob their wealthy guests then it would have been impossible for them to last until now.

“Then what do you want from me?” Lin Ming indifferently asked.

Chapter 774 – Xiaoxiao

The old woman from Heavencraft Pavilion had a cultivation at the second stage of Life Destruction. Moreover, her foundation was ordinary and she wasn't that much stronger than that red-clothed old man who had died just now. With Lin Ming's strength he could instantly kill her.

This made the old woman not even dare to take a deep breath as she faced Lin Ming. Her palms became wet with sweat. She never thought that this mere late Revolving Core cultivation youth was actually such an evil star. Just where had he come from?

“What are you here for? Don't tell me that you came to save me?” Lin Ming sneered as he asked again.

The black-clothed old woman bitterly smiled as she heard this, “Although Young Hero Lin might think it a bit absurd, the truth is that... I really did come to rescue Young Hero Lin. That red-clothed old man that Young Hero Lin killed just now, I happen to know a bit about him. He does not come from a sect and has an exceedingly poor reputation. When he was young he joined forces with someone and killed a good number of people to steal their possessions and were considered evil and fierce. Young Hero Lin's cultivation is only at the Revolving Core realm and you revealed a great deal of wealth at my Heavencraft Trading Company and took away the skyflower stones that he wanted. At that time, I saw that old man's devilish expression and guessed he might chase Young Hero Lin down, so I quietly followed him here.”

“And?” Lin Ming expressionlessly said. The black-clothed old

woman said her behavior was absurd so she should have an absurd reason to go along with it. Lin Ming didn't believe that the Heavencraft Trading Company had such kind intentions that they would send escorts to follow every guest that came shopping at their trading company.

“I do not dare to lie to Sir Lin. I only thought that since Young Hero Lin isn't poor and was able to put out such a wonderful treasure that you must be a genius from some powerful force coming out to adventure. Perhaps you might not even come from the four Divine Kingdoms, so I suddenly had the thought of becoming friends. I wished to help Young Hero Lin at a critical moment so that Young Hero Lin would owe the Heavencraft Trading Company a favor and might even help my Heavencraft Trading Company with some minor business. But, I never thought that Young Hero Lin would be so skilled that you would be able to instantly kill that second stage Life Destruction master as well as see through my hiding skill with such ease. This old woman's actions must truly be laughable to you.”

The black-clothed old woman ruefully smiled as she spoke to here. She had no choice but to completely reveal her motives. In fact, this reasoning seemed very credible.

“Help the Heavencraft Trading Company with some business? So, the Heavencraft Trading Company has fallen into some trouble and you wish to ask the power behind me for help? You think that since there's such an illness you can go to any doctor to cure it?”

“Yes...” The black-clothed old woman deeply sighed. “Young Hero Lin, although my Heavencraft Trading Company doesn't

have much fighting strength, we have a very deep inheritance and very rich channels. If Young Hero Lin could help us out then I have complete confidence I can find the dragonspine grass that Young Hero Lin needs.”

As soon as the black-clothed old woman spoke such tempting words, Lin Ming’s heart stirred, “How do you plan on looking for it?”

“My Heavencraft Trading Company might not have dragonspine grass but we do have materials that are even more rare and precious than dragonspine grass. We can easily exchange them with some alchemist.”

Lin Ming nodded, “Since that’s the case... that’s fine. If you encounter any troubles then tell me in advance. But, if there is any life-threatening danger involved, I will give up halfway if needed.”

The black-clothed old woman was surprised. She originally wanted to borrow the powerful force behind Lin Ming, but now it seems that Lin Ming himself would take action.

The black-clothed old woman couldn’t accurately estimate Lin Ming’s combat strength. If he could instantly kill a second stage Life Destruction martial artist then he should have strength at least equal to the third stage of Life Destruction. He might even be stronger than that. As for how much stronger, she had no idea.

If she had his help, then perhaps they could ride out this chaotic storm.

“Young Hero Lin, can you follow me back? It isn’t convenient to speak here.”

Lin Ming nodded and followed the black-clothed old woman back to Witch Creek City.

As they re-entered Heavencraft Pavilion, Lin Ming directly ascended to the highest floor.

This was an elegantly decorated loft. In the room, there was only the black-clothed woman and the purple-veiled woman that Lin Ming had seen before. This purple-veiled woman personally rose up and poured a cup of tea for Lin Ming. “This is the famous snowflower tea from the Nine Peaked Snowy Mountains of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. It has the effect of refreshing the mind and nourishing the soul. Sir Lin, please have a taste.”

The purple-veiled woman respectfully said. She had already heard the black-clothed old woman describe Lin Ming’s strength. She didn’t think that with Lin Ming’s young age and his late Revolving Core cultivation, he would actually have such extraordinary combat strength that he was able to instantly kill a second stage Life Destruction master. Thus, she had become increasingly respectful towards Lin Ming.

Lin Ming lifted the teacup and swept his perception through it. The tea contained a very rich and pure wood origin energy; it was clearly a treasure amongst teas.

“Teatime can wait for later. If you two have any matters then please speak frankly.”

The purple-clothed woman bit her lips and said with a trace of bitterness and pain, “Sir Lin, I am the daughter of the Heavencraft Trading Company’s Company Head. My name is Heavencraft Xiaoxiao, but you may refer to me as simply Xiaoxiao. Two months ago my father was in an accident and he perished because of that. Since then, I have had to personally take temporary charge of the trading company. Luckily, I have had Grandma White’s assistance and thus I’ve been able to deal with all the issues occurring. However, one month ago, two of my uncles decided to cause trouble because of the issue of succession to be Company Head. Currently, a portion of my family’s Council of Elders have been bribed by my two uncles. They intend to deprive me of my position of Company Head...”

As the purple-clothed woman spoke to here, she seemed to remember the pitiful death of her father. Her beautiful face turned mournful, a deep sadness emanating from her that made one feel pity for her.

Lin Ming was silent for a moment. “Miss Xiaoxiao, are you saying that you wish for me to support you to become the Family Head? Your Heavencraft Trading Company is one of the three great trading companies of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, right? With a 6000 year inheritance, shouldn’t you have some masters on the Destiny Decree? I think you look down on me too much!”

Heavencraft Xiaoxiao shook her head. “There are a total of 360 individuals on the Destiny Decree. A bit more than half of them are

part of the four Divine Kingdoms. Divided down, there are a few dozen in each Divine Kingdom. All of these characters are existences that can move the sun and the skies in their Divine Kingdoms. How could they possibly listen to such a minor struggle in our small trading company?

“In the four Divine Kingdoms, all of the great trading companies merely seem glamorous and powerful on the outside. In the end, us trading companies are merely businesses – we are not sects. Although we have countless resources and wealth, if a powerful force really wants to move on us then we’re nothing more than fat pigs.”

Heavencraft Xiaoxiao sighed as she spoke to here. In the face of absolute strength, a trading company was simply too weak and fragile. In order for the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdoms to have absolute control within their lands, they kept strict control over the martial forces of the three great trading companies. Especially in the last several hundred years there had been all sorts of limits and rules placed on them. Now, the Heavencraft Trading Company could only rely on martial artists raised in the family. But in terms of inheritance, how could a trading company possible compare with a true sect? Although they could cultivate some forces, it was simply far too limited.

Lin Ming didn’t immediately agree. Instead he asked, “Although there is a very small number of Destiny Decree masters, can’t you still pay a price high enough to tempt them to action?”

“Yes, but in accordance to family rules, the majority of resources can only be used by direction of the Company Head as well as the

Council of Elders. There are currently people in the Council of Elders that support me, and also those who support my two uncles, and they are unable to come to a unanimous decision. Thus, no one can move the family's treasures. It isn't just me, but my two uncles are in the same situation. The dragonspine grass that Young Hero Lin wishes for can be prepared by me in seven days. If Young Hero Lin is willing to help me out in this matter, then I can also find other resources besides dragonspine grass as thanks."

"I understand. But, I will say this in advance. If there is anything that threatens my life then I won't rush into death for you. At that time, our agreement will also come to an end."

"That's naturally expected. If my two uncles can find a match that even Sir Lin cannot compete with then I can only blame myself for having an unlucky life." Xiaoxiao hurried responded with a happy heart as she saw Lin Ming agree.

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After Lin Ming came to an agreement with Xiaoxiao, he entered into a chamber of Heavencraft Pavilion to train. As for the spirit essence stones that Lin Ming used for training, Xiaoxiao was not cheap at all. The training chamber was filled with top grade true essence stones and spirit essence stones, filling the chamber with an incomparably rich heaven and earth origin energy.

From the time that Lin Ming had broken through to the late Revolving Core realm and cut down Xuan Wuji until now, several months had already passed. Although Lin Ming had spent a great deal of energy studying alchemy techniques, he didn't lag behind

in his cultivation either. His cultivation had gone from the very beginning of the late Revolving Core to having steadily stabilized himself in the late Revolving Core realm. With the help of the jade slips that Fairy Feng had left for him, his understanding of the Concept of Fire was also steadily increasing. Now, if he could re-enter the God Transforming Mirror then he believed he could easily last in the second world for at least 120 breaths.

Ca!

With a thrust of his spear, the condensed power of fire pierced through a specially crafted metal plate target. The target split up into pieces before being churned to fragments underneath raging fire true essence.

“My Concept of Fire Annihilation has risen yet another step. My self-created Bury the Heavens and Chain of Stars have also increased in power by 20-30%. If I could fight Xuan Wuji now, then I should be able to kill him in frontal combat instead of having to wear him down with superior endurance, recovery ability, and defensive power. However, it’s a pity that my Concept of Fire can progress astronomically with the inheritance of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, but my Concept of Thunder is actually advancing so slowly and with such difficulty too.”

Lin Ming lightly sighed. Inheritances and resources were simply too important for the growth of a genius. Even a clever woman couldn’t cook a meal without rice; it was impossible to get anywhere without proper supplies. Even with the Heretical God Force giving him an immense advantage in comprehending the Concept of Thunder, there still wasn’t anything he could do.

Fortunately, comprehending a Concept was different from comprehending a battle spirit. This was because the earlier one formed their own battle spirit, the more potential it would have in the future. If one formed their battle spirit too late then the losses would be immeasurable, because the grade of a battle spirit would slowly rise with the growth of a martial artist's cultivation and will.

But Concepts and laws were different. Even if one comprehended them at a very late period, they could still catch up later once they reached large success in their future cultivation.

And just as Lin Ming was planning to meditate on the Concept of Fire Annihilation again, a flame suddenly lit in front of him. This was the light of a sound transmitting talisman.

As Lin Ming heard the message within, he slightly frowned. It seemed as if trouble had finally come to his door. It wasn't pleasant to be disturbed during training, but since he had accepted benefits from others he naturally had to help them in their matters. If Lin Ming didn't have the Heavencraft Trading Company look for dragonspine grass for him, then he wouldn't necessarily be able to find it – at least not in a reasonable period of time.

Lin Ming opened the chamber doors and put on a white training outfit. He began moving towards the front hall of Heavencraft Pavilion. By the time he arrived, the hall was already filled with people.

Four old men were imperiously sitting in front. Behind them were seven or eight youths. At this moment, Xiaoxiao was arguing with the four old men.

Chapter 775 – Saber Light

“Uncle Yan, Uncle Luoyan, you two have followed my father for over 50 years! Just how did my father treat you in the past? Uncle Yan, you’re not even a clansman of my Heavencraft Family to begin with! When you were faced with misfortune in Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, my father was the one to take you in and shelter you. He placed his trusted in you, and you managed to successfully pass into the Life Destruction realm through my family, and become a secondary Elder. I’ve always treated you as an uncle, and yet you still treat me this way?”

“And you too Uncle Luoyan. Your eldest son was just an ordinary talent, and had both his soul and meridians grievously damaged in a fight. If it weren’t for the medicines that my father provided, which managed to drag him back from death’s door, then how could he even have survived, much less reach the Revolving Core realm? My father’s corpse hasn’t even grown cold, and the mourning period hasn’t even ended. Yet you have still allied with my other uncle and are trying to force me to resign my position as the sole successor. Can you still even face my father in the afterlife?”

Xiaoxiao’s eyes were full of anger. Her beautiful body fiercely heaved, obviously because her mood was so tremulous with rage.

In front of her, that middle-aged man called Uncle Luoyan only shook his head, a mixture of guilt and helplessness intertwined on his face. Beside him, Uncle Yan was looking on at Xiaoxiao as usual.

He chuckled and said, “Humph, little Heavencraft girl, do you really think that your father did all those things for me out of kindness and generosity? He sheltered me only because I possessed a rare treasure. After the treasure was taken by him, it was obvious that he would have to treat me well! Moreover, he felt that I had value and tried to work me to death for the trading company. If I wasn’t useful to him, do you think he would be so nice? Don’t make me laugh!”

“We are just taking what we have earned with our hard work. In fact, we should have more! You said that Brother Yun’s eldest son was forcefully brought to the Revolving Core realm after he was saved, and indeed this is true. However, what about you? It’s not like your talent is surprising or startling. You’re still at the Xiantian realm at 21 years of age, and yet you have used the most resources!”

As Xiaoxiao heard these words she mirthlessly smiled, “Betrayal is the only truth. Human nature is that of greed to begin with; no one can ever be content. My father’s vision was incorrect, and he allowed a wolf into his house. No one else can be blamed for this!”

As Xiaoxiao spoke, another middle-aged man dryly coughed and stood up from his chair. “Xiaoxiao, I have watched you grow up and you truly do have talent in business. However, you are just far too young. The Heavencraft Trading Company needs a powerful and experienced leader at the helm. You are far from being capable enough at this time and age.”

“In the past two months after your father’s accident, the family’s income has already fallen by 30%. You should remember that our

Heavencraft Trading Company takes in a great deal of money, but our annual tax to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom is even greater. With so many other great expenses involved, our foundation will be shaken if we can't raise the family income. I am also being forced by the Council of Elders to quickly resolve this issue."

As a middle-aged man, he had an appearance that made it seem as if he were sacrificing everything for the family. Xiaoxiao's entire body trembled with anger, "Being forced? Great Uncle, only you would have the nerve to say that!"

"Hahaha!" At this moment, a bright eyed and handsome man laughed out loud, "Young cousin, you have misunderstood our intentions. We just want to help lighten the burden on your shoulders, and this is all in the best interest for the future of the trading company. Young cousin, how about you move out of Heavencraft Pavilion first and return to the main family residence?"

Heavencraft Pavilion was just a place where the business of Heavencraft Trading Company was conducted. As for the family's residence, it wasn't here but at a sprawling mansion located at the outskirts of Witch Creek City.

Because Xiaoxiao was being suppressed by her two uncles, she worried that she would be placed under house arrest if she returned home. It had been a long time since she had left Heavencraft Pavilion. Now, her room and board were all here.

"Heavencraft Yan, you hypocritically fake gentleman!"

Heavencraft Xiaoxiao looked at this so-called older cousin with hatred and loathing. If there was this playboy around, then once she returned home not only would she lose her position as Company Head but even her chastity might be taken!

“Aiyaya, Xiaoxiao, you are too willful. Since this is the case, I’ll have no choice but to ask others to escort you back.” As the handsome man’s voice fell, three old Life Destruction masters stepped forward, encircling Xiaoxiao.

Beside Xiaoxiao, the black-clothed old woman suddenly tensed up, “Are you trying to rebel!?”

“Grandma White, I advise you to understand your limits and to not make this hard for everyone involved. Everyone here is a part of Heavencraft Pavilion, and with three to one odds, you simply have no chance of winning. If you’re accidentally injured....”

One of the old men coldly smiled. His hand already had already touched his spatial ring, and was about to attack. However, at this moment, his heart felt as if it had fallen into an icy lake. He could feel that a thick killing intent had suddenly locked in on him!

As he looked up, he was surprised to see that 100 feet away, there was a youth in white training robes casually standing there with his arms behind his back. From just standing there, it seemed as if he held everyone present in the palm of his hands.

“Who are you? How did you come in?” The old man stared at Lin

Ming like a cornered wolf. It was obvious that he hadn't come here with good intentions in mind.

Lin Ming completely disregarded these people. To these ungrateful maggots who had no compassion or virtue, those who would take advantage of the death of the Company Head to bully his children and covet his property, he simply didn't have the least bit of favorable impression towards them.

He faintly glanced at Xiaoxiao and asked with a true essence sound transmission, "It's just these people?"

"There is still another Great Uncle of mine who hasn't come today." As Xiaoxiao saw Lin Ming appear, a sudden hope ignited in her heart.

"Two peak second stage Life Destruction and one first stage Life Destruction." Lin Ming thought that these cultivations were quite ordinary. He seemed the entire Heavencraft Family's strength was equal to the South Sea Demon Region, which was also an ordinary fifth-grade sect.

The four Divine Kingdoms were a quasi sixth-grade sect, so it was reasonable that their subordinate forces would also be ordinary fifth-grade sects.

"Young boy, this old man is speaking to you. Are you deaf!?"

As the old man saw Lin Ming ignore his question, his face

suddenly became gloomy and twisted into an ugly grimace.

Xiaoxiao's older cousin, Heavencraft Yan, sneered as he said, "There isn't anything to ask. This idiot is just a helper that Xiaoxiao has drawn in. I must say little cousin, your judgement is far too horrible. To look for a boy who hasn't even reached Life Destruction, haha...he isn't even enough for a single bite!"

Heavencraft Yan turned to Lin Ming, a mocking grin on his face, "I really feel bad for you. You think you're a hero coming to save a damsel in distress? Hahaha, you'll just have to regret the choices you made today, you toad trying to eat swan meat. Today, I will cut off your hands, your feet, and your manhood. I want you to beg for – "

Heavencraft Yan didn't even finish his sentence when his vision suddenly blurred. He felt as if an ice cold bucket of water had been poured all over him, causing his entire body to tingle with numbness, and was no longer able to move even a single inch.

Heavencraft Yan was shocked. Before he could respond, all he saw was Lin Ming's chilling face appearing before him.

A palm came slamming down.

Pulse Cutting Palm!

Peng!

Heavencraft Yan only felt his dantian shake as a brutal and tyrannical energy broke into his meridians, recklessly destroying everything it came into contact with. He vomited a great mouthful of blood as he flew backwards, smashing into a wall.

All the martial artists present were stunned. They never thought that Lin Ming would suddenly attack, and with horrifying movements as fast and fading as ghosts and demons!

“Brat, you actually did something so cruel! I will kill you!” Heavencraft Yan’s father saw that Lin Ming’s palm attack had obviously wounded Heavencraft Yan’s meridians and dantian. His heart surging with anger, he took a furious step forward and drew out a treasure saber from his spatial ring before cutting down at Lin Ming’s head. This saber contained the full force of his might, and if a normal Revolving Core martial artist were to face it, their head would burst apart!

“Brother Feng, be careful!” The old man surnamed Yan hurriedly warned as he saw Heavencraft Yan’s father become blind with rage. Even though Heavencraft Yan’s talent wasn’t too outstanding, and although he had only reached the late Revolving Core realm at 40 years of age with the help of a staggering amount of resources, his cultivation was still on par with Lin Ming’s. Even so, Lin Ming had managed to grievously wound him with a single palm strike. Even if part of this outcome was due to it being a sneak attack, this still proved that Lin Ming’s strength far exceeded martial artists at the same level.

Before old man Yan’s voice even fell upon the ears of the others, there was a loud metallic ringing sound. Lin Ming had actually

grabbed Heavencraft Feng's saber with a single bare hand, his other hand forming a solid fist that pounded towards Heavencraft Feng's chest.

Body Tearing Bone Shattering Fist!

Kacha!

With a muffled thumping sound, all of Heavencraft Feng's ribs were cleanly broken apart. His entire chest sunk down and he flew backwards, crashing into the wall and deeply embedding himself there.

As for Lin Ming, he still held onto the treasure saber in his hand. He poured a wisp of his battle spirit into it and casually threw it back out with the saber point whistling straight towards Heavencraft Feng's heart.

Xiaoxiao was frightened as she saw Lin Ming's actions. Although she hated these people to her bone, she didn't want to kill them since they were her family, after all.

In fact, despite living for so long and breaking through to the Xiantian realm, but she had never engaged in a true life or death struggle, let alone killed someone.

“No!”

In the moment that Xiaoxiao shouted out, the saber point was

less than three feet from Heavencraft Feng's heart!

Heavencraft Feng was alarmed to the point where he felt as if his soul had fled his body. It was already too late to dodge, and he could only crazily galvanize his protective true essence in the vain hopes of blocking this saber.

At that moment, he could even feel the cold light of the saber point touch the point between his eyebrows.

Lin Ming frowned as he heard Xiaoxiao's shout. With a slight shift in his thoughts, he moved his battle spirit, changing the trajectory of the saber.

Puff!

The saber point strayed three inches to the side of its original target. From the original target of Heavencraft Feng's heart, it instead stabbed into his right lung. Heavencraft Feng's protective true essence had been torn apart as if it were nothing more than wet paper.

Blood spurted out. Heavencraft Feng had been nailed to the wall with his own saber, the hilt still trembling.

Lin Ming turned towards Xiaoxiao.

Xiaoxiao was spooked. She had never seen Lin Ming fight before; she had only heard Grandma White's description of him. Even so,

she never thought that Lin Ming would be so powerful, and that his actions would be so decisive. As soon as he took action, he had nearly killed Heavencraft Feng.

“Sir Lin, please do not kill them. If the Council of Elders find out that I hired an outsider to help kill people of my Heavencraft Family, then that will cause dangerous rumors to appear. My other Great Uncle will use this as an excuse to have the Council of Elders punish me with an expulsion or sanctions.

Although Xiaoxiao may be naturally kind-hearted, she wasn't just a wishy-washy vase that simply stood there. She was well aware that if people started dying, then all conflicts would rapidly escalate. Even if she became the Company Head by killing her way to the top, it would become difficult to govern the family in the future. After all, Lin Ming couldn't stay with her forever. Once Lin Ming left, various conflicts would erupt, and she would die if she couldn't keep a tight grip on her position.

Chapter 776 – Sweep Through All

The sudden change in events stunned all the martial artists present. Heavencraft Feng was embedded in the wall, vomiting out great mouthfuls of blood.

Heavencraft Feng had cultivated to the first stage of Life Destruction; and yet, he had still nearly died a miserable death in just a single exchange with Lin Ming.

Lin Ming's cultivation was merely at the late Revolving Core realm!

“Just where is this boy from?”

Old man Yan and the other second stage Life Destruction old man felt as if they had been backed into to the edge of a cliff. Those several young martial artists also looked like they had seen a ghost appear in front of them. Lin Ming appeared to be only 20 some years old; in fact, he might even be younger than them.

They were also juniors like him, so how could the disparity in their strength be so great?

“If he defeated a first stage Life Destruction martial artist that easily, then his strength must be at least the peak of the second stage of Life Destruction, or maybe even at the third stage of Life Destruction.”

If Lin Ming's strength was only at the second stage of Life Destruction, then if they gave it their all, Ling Ming would still be an opponent that they could fight against. However, if he had the strength of a third stage Life Destruction martial artist, then it didn't matter, even if there were several more of them.

Lin Ming unconsciously exuded a formless killing intent from his body, which was known as the Death God force field.. As old man Yan and the other second stage Life Destruction Elder were enveloped in this killing intent, both of them felt extremely suppressed.

This made them that much more afraid to do anything.

Once they started a fight, then there would be no end to it. If they angered Lin Ming and provoked their own deaths, then that would truly be a miserable way to die.

Old man and the other middle-aged man looked at each other, both seeing the hesitation in the other's eyes.

Old man Yan hesitated for a moment and then stepped forwards. He said to Lin Ming, "Brat, this old man will fight with you. Victory and defeat will be decided in three moves!

Old man Yan's cultivation was at the second stage of Life Destruction. He couldn't see just what the limits of Lin Ming's strength were; he could only probe them through a fight. He would challenge him in advance to avoid shaming the both of them, and having the matter devolve further. At the very least, there

shouldn't be a life-threatening situation. Old man Yan also put out a limit of three moves because he was also lacking in self confidence. He thought that even if he wasn't Lin Ming's match, if he used everything he had in these three moves, then he should still be able to defend himself.

Old man Yan didn't wait for Lin Ming's reply. He drew out a soft sword from his spatial ring and cut at Lin Ming's throat.

“Lotus Heart Sword!”

Old man Yan thrust his sword out, an extremely pure and rich wood-attribute energy constantly emitting from it. Without a doubt, this old man Yan was a wood-attribute martial artist. He also had understanding towards the Concept of Wood that was just taking shape.

The sword light wove into a blue lotus in front of Lin Ming, several dozen blue lotus flower petals spinning around, cutting towards him.

Everyone stared with wide eyes, waiting to see just what the limits of Lin Ming's strength were. If his strength was similar to old man Yan's then they wouldn't need to care too much. They would only need another master or two to come in order to suppress Lin Ming. But, if Lin Ming's strength far surpassed old man Yan's, then there wasn't anything they could do.

“Too weak.”

Lin Ming shook his head. After arriving at this level of cultivation, looking at the entire Sky Spill Continent, there was no longer a young genius anywhere that could stand on par with him. As for those masters of the older generation, none of them were able to make him take them seriously unless their cultivations were at least at the peak of the fourth stage of Life Destruction.

He gently traced his spatial ring and a long red spear leap into his hands. Without using any martial skill or even opening the Heretical God Force, all Lin Ming did was pour a wisp of his battle spirit into his long spear.

With that, a red light flashed out as a harsh grating sound surged forth.

Kacha!

The blue lotus that old man Yan formed was pierced through by Lin Ming's spear. The lotus completely cracked and the sharp lotus petals turned into scattered wood-attribute energy that faded away.

“This is bad!”

Old man Yan was horrified. He didn't think that after stepping up, his result would be the exact same as Heavencraft Feng's. He thought that against this enemy, he should still be able to protect himself within three moves. But now he hadn't even been able to block a single one!

“Young Hero, show mercy...!”

Old man Yan shouted out these words, but all he received was a cold sneer from Lin Ming. To ask for forgiveness at this time, this old man truly didn't care for face. Lin Ming was well aware that this old man Yan was probing him. If old man Yan fought Lin Ming to an even standstill, then the other people would have swarmed him, suppressing him through superior numbers. Now, however, this old man Yan had been absolutely defeated by him and all he thought about was begging for forgiveness.

Shameless.

Lin Ming had also heard Xiaoxiao's argument with this old man Yan. He knew that this old man was nothing but an ungrateful bastard. So, not only did he not forgive him, but his disgust and anger only increased by several points.

Lin Ming didn't take old man Yan's life, however. Instead, he deliberately manipulated his true essence to ravage the old man's meridians, directly tearing all his meridians to pieces!

Old man Yan gave a miserable scream as he flew back dozens of feet, finally crashing into a table and vase, smashing them into bits.

Old man Yan had countless wounds on his body, and nearly all of his meridians and bones were broken. He didn't even have the strength to move his limbs.

This sort of injury would be impossible to treat without top quality miracle medicines. And, even he did, his wounds would never recover to the same state they were before. Old man Yan wasn't young anymore and the fires of his life were already simmering low. Even if he used the best medicines available his strength would still drop one or two realms.

"You...." Old man didn't know just how miserable his current condition was. All he felt was anger and despair in his heart, and that him speaking this word was a result of the mental attack coming from such a heavy wound. Then, he spat out a mouthful of blood and fainted.

As the other martial artists of Heavencraft Trading Company saw this, all of them began to feel fear. Even a second stage Life Destruction martial artist was not Lin Ming's match!

Beside Lin Ming, Xiaoxiao was secretly pleased and overjoyed. While she didn't wish to kill other members of the Heavencraft Family, she also couldn't bear to see such a wolf that betrayed her father. She wished that all of those traitors martial arts would be wasted. Lin Ming's actions had vented out some of the anger in her heart.

At this time, the other middle-aged man had an extremely ugly expression. It was just a match of three moves and yet Lin Ming had been so heavy handed in his actions. At this time, he wouldn't do something so stupid as stir up any trouble with Lin Ming. As the weaker man, all he could do was endure this.

He depressed the angst in his heart and forcefully smiled, "Young

Hero's strength is astounding. May I ask where you come from?"

The middle-aged man asked this because he wanted to investigate Lin Ming's status.

However, Lin Ming was disinclined to bother him to begin with. He certainly wouldn't reveal his origin in the South Horizon Region, and there was definitely no need to say anything at all. It would be easy to see through any sort of fabricated identity.

Seeing Lin Ming failing to respond, the middle-aged man didn't grow angry. Instead, he started speaking to Lin Ming with a true essence sound transmission.

As Heavencraft Xiaoxiao saw this event unfold, she felt her heart unconsciously tighten, and used a hand to tightly grab onto Lin Ming's arm. She didn't need to hear the conversation to guess just what was happening. Her great uncle must be asking why Lin Ming would bother helping her, and once the topic of dragonspine grass was to be brought about, her two great uncles might even be able beat her in obtaining the grass for Lin Ming.. They would be able to entice him with benefits that she couldn't match.

After all, Lin Ming was only someone that she had coincidentally met. It was possible he might be tempted by their offer. Once she lost Lin Ming's backing, she would completely lose all status in the family.

"Not interested."

Lin Ming suddenly said. The middle-aged man's expression stiffened. As for Heavencraft Xiaoxiao, she let out a long breath of relief as the part of the tension left her body.

That was a close call.

The middle-aged man didn't seem willing to accept this answer. He continued to speak, offering Lin Ming many other advantages. However, Lin Ming rejected him all the same.

"Young Hero, since that is the case, then I won't stay here wasting your time. Let's go." The various youths around him picked up the injured and left.

Go?

You think you can just come when you want to, and leave when you want to?

Lin Ming glanced at Heavencraft Xiaoxiao, who revealed a hesitant look in return. However, she still let them leave. Although Lin Ming could completely exterminate each and every one of them here, she simply couldn't handle the consequences. If she captured all of them, then she would still face pressure from her family, most likely leading her to free them under this pressure. That would be an embarrassing move that would make her lose face and supporters.

She was only in her early twenties, and had truly become an

adult just several years ago. With her current foundation in the family, just how many people would be willing to support her?”

“Young Hero Lin, thank you.” Xiaoxiao said with heartfelt admiration after everyone left. “Young Hero Lin, after this matter is settled, not only will I find dragonspine grass for you, I will also pay you 20,000 spirit essence stones in thanks. Additionally, if you have any other materials you need in the future, then please feel free to ask. I will try as hard as I can to find and sell them to you at the lowest price possible.” Xiaoxiao increased her previous reward. She was afraid that Lin Ming would be won over by her great uncles.

As Lin Ming decided to step onto the road to being an alchemist, he naturally wouldn't reject such great conditions from Xiaoxiao. Instead, he was concerned about whether or not Xiaoxiao would be able to obtain the position of Family Head if this farce continued.

Lin Ming said, “You only had me drive them out and they didn't suffer any great loss. If this trend continues then you simply won't be destined to become the Family Head.”

Xiaoxiao certainly knew this too. She said, “Young Hero Lin, my foundation is too shallow in the family, so it's impossible for me to obtain trust among my family members. However, just awhile ago, I received news that my father's good friend is headed here. He should be able to catch up to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom in a dozen days or so. Once he arrives, I should be able to cement my status in the family. Then, once I can shore up the Heavencraft Trading Companies income, I'll definitely be able to win the support of the Council of Elders.”

“Well, do what you want.”

Lin Ming didn't have an opinion. Towards these power struggles in the family, there was no convincingly valuable advice that he could give.

.....

“Yan'er! Yan'er!”

Beside Xiaoxiao's older cousin, Heavencraft Yan, was an extremely distressed middle-aged woman bawling at his bedside. There were several highly skilled medical martial artists that had just assessed Heavencraft Yan's situation. His injuries were even heavier than old man Yan's were, and not only were all his meridians torn apart, but even his dantian had completely collapsed. Moreover, these wounds may have even harmed the ability for him to leave behind any future descendants.

To Heavencraft Feng and his wife, this was an immense attack.

“That brat is too ruthless!” Heavencraft Feng shouted in anger, “Let's go ask that Sir to help. As long as he does help, he should be able to easily annihilate that brat!”

Heavencraft Feng's injuries were the lightest of the three injured men. In the end, Lin Ming had showed mercy with the saber, only stabbing through Heavencraft Feng's right lung. To a Life

Destruction martial artist, as long as the heart, meridians, dantian, and spiritual sea weren't damaged, then all other injuries could be quickly healed.

There was a middle-aged man sitting In front of Heavencraft Feng. The middle-aged man sneered and said, "Look for that Sir? Why not look for his highness the Crown Prince? Although the Crown Prince wishes to subordinate our Heavencraft Trading Company under his control, that is still our good fortune."

"Compared to the Crown Prince's plans, however, our Heavencraft Trading Company is only a minor chess piece. Since he handed this matter to us, this is the best chance to prove our ability and worth to him. If we can't complete this task and have to go ask that Sir to help, then just what use are we?"

Chapter 777 – Bronze Battle Spirit Large Success

The Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Crown Prince, Yang Yun, was the brightest star of the entire Divine Kingdom and the bastard son birthed by a lowly concubine in the Nine Furnace Divine Emperor's imperial harem. From the moment he was born, he was ignored by everyone. However, when he was 12 years old, he actually revealed an astonishing talent for martial arts.

He stepped into the Life Destruction realm at only 30 years of age. Now, ten more years had passed and it was unknown just what his cultivation was. His strength was said to be unfathomable.

In the four Divine Kingdoms, pedigree and background were secondary to strength. Thus, Yang Yun, though not too closely connected to the Royal Family, was actually able to stand out and become the Crown Prince by virtue of his own power. He held the military power and trade of the country in his palms, and his power and influence was horrifying. Even the three great Imperial Scholars were unable to disobey Yang Yun's wishes.

In these past years, Yang Yun had frequently created massive stirs in the country – he was obviously ambitious and had high aspirations. Yang Yun continually strengthened his control over all – not only did he want to completely grasp the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's combat strength in his hands, he wanted the economy as well.

Heavencraft Trading Company was also one of Yang Yun's goals.

However, even though Yang Yun had immeasurable power and influence, he still had no choice but to consider the public's opinion. He naturally couldn't recklessly plunder the privately owned property of his people. Thus, he supported Heavencraft Xiaoxiao's two great uncles, Heavencraft Xiao and Heavencraft Yun, and had them go ahead and take control of the Company Head position first.

They didn't know just what Yang Yun's final goal was, but what they did know was that following Yang Yun would lead to infinite glory. It was far better than following that little girl Heavencraft Xiaoxiao who was still wet behind the years, as there was simply no future in supporting her.

Heavencraft Xiao and Heavencraft Yun understood that to Yang Yun, the entire Heavencraft Trading Company was nothing but a tiny piece of meat, and wasn't worth paying too much attention to. They had to accomplish a few tasks first in order to earn Yang Yun's attention. If they couldn't even deal with a hairless late Revolving Core boy, then they might even be discarded by Yang Yun.

If Yang Yun really wanted to control the Heavencraft Trading Company, he didn't necessarily need to go through the two of them.

"Big brother, what do you plan on doing?" In a private chamber, Heavencraft Yun asked Heavencraft Xiao.

Heavencraft Xiao hesitated for a moment before his eyes flashed with a cold light. "I intend on asking the Corpsemancer for help.

The Corpsemancer and I have had some dealings in the past, and if I can tempt him with some things that interest him, then he should be willing to help.”

“The Corpsemancer ranked 330 in the Destiny Decree!?” Heavencraft Yun’s head chilled, his complexion not looking too well. Although Heavencraft Xiao and Corpsemancer knew each other, he would prefer not to seek the help of such a strange fellow.

The Corpsemancer was a demonic path martial artist from the Asura Divine Kingdom. He had an extremely cruel disposition, and was known for being a dangerous devil that could kill without batting an eye.

Demonic path martial artists either walked the slaughter path or the sexual path. As for this Corpsemancer, he specifically trained in the ghosts and corpse puppets of the slaughter path. This is where his nickname had come from.

If it was just these few puppets, then it still wouldn’t be enough for Heavencraft Yun to feel so creeped out. It was known that Corpsemancer could kill anyone at any time. Whether they were friend or foe, everyone had to watch their backs behind him.

Moreover, he often used bodies, and even live people in his corpse puppet experiments.

Babies, children, young girls, pregnant women, the elderly, these were all the Corpsemancer’s favorite subjects. He especially liked

to flay the skin off beautiful virgins and use them to complete his puppets. After being experimented on, those subjects of his would experience a fate worse than death.

Towards such an abnormally strange freak, Heavencraft Yun didn't want to cross paths with him at all.

“If I had some other plan, then I wouldn't look for him at all. However, if I want to deal with that boy, it is much more reliable if I find some master ranked on the Destiny Decree.” Heavencraft Xiao said.

There were only 360 individuals listed on the Destiny Decree, and although this sounded like a great number of people, it first had to be known that there were only 100 or so Divine Sea powerhouses in the entire Sky Spill Continent.

In contrast, there were far more Life Destruction powerhouses than Divine Sea powerhouses. A conservative estimate would be in the range of the several tens of thousands.

To choose 360 individuals from so many Life Destruction powerhouses, one had to have a reputation worthy of being at the very top. If one could be ranked on such a list then, they must be an unrivalled peer of their era, a master of masters.

In the four Divine Kingdoms, each Divine Kingdom only had several dozen Destiny Decree masters to themselves. The majority of them were in closed door cultivation in order to attempt breaking through to the Divine Sea realm. The Heavencraft

Trading Company was only a fifth-grade power, and if they couldn't pay a high enough price, then there was no way they could even think about moving a Destiny Decree master to action.

Corpsemancer was ranked 330 on the Destiny Decree. However, for all those lower than rank 200, every 10 ranks were considered a separate level. So, it was more accurate to say that Corpsemancer's ranking was around 330-340. Although it sounded not that impressive, it was still a terrifying number.

Ho – !

A flame burned.

....

In a remote mountain cave deep in the border of the Asura Divine Kingdom, a skinny, skeletal old man was playing with large, gooey brain matter.

Beside him, a naked young girl was nailed to a wooden rack with most of her skin stripped off as her eyeballs dangled outside of their sockets. She weakly groaned. Under the support of the Corpsemancer's medicine, she continuously hung onto life, unable to die.

At her side was a child. The child was soaked in an unknown liquid and his entire body was covered with green hair. His small hands had already become a pair of disgusting claws.

“They want to use a ghost spirit crystal as the price for dealing with a late Revolving Core boy? A little brat with such astonishing strength? Hehe, there is also Heavencraft Trading Company’s little mistress? How interesting! Kekeke, if this little devil is as Heavencraft Xiao said, and has such a powerful combat strength at just the late Revolving Core realm, then he is actually excellent puppet material. As for that young, beautiful woman, she is also a good experimental subject. A new puppet wrapped in the skin of a beautiful woman is simply the best! Jejeje!” Corpsemancer darkly smiled. He took out a crow puppet from his spatial ring, jumped on it, and flew straight towards the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.

The four Divine Kingdoms each covered an incomparably vast territory, and in the middle of them all was the Sea of Miracles. The Sea of Miracles was known for being impossible to traverse, and was known as the absolute life forbidden zone of the four Divine Kingdoms and had to be circled around. Thus, from the Asura Divine Kingdom to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, it still took over a dozen days, even with the help of transmission arrays.

...

At this time, Lin Ming was living a very calm and peaceful life. Every day he would train and practice alchemy.

With the support of the Heavencraft Trading Company, Lin Ming was able to easily purchase massive amounts of alchemy materials and wood jade at extremely low prices. All of this was constantly consumed in the Cosmic Melting Furnace, with at least 90% of it becoming nothing more than burnt ash.

Lin Ming's alchemy technique wasn't poor at all. It was just that, every time he mastered a new level of alchemy technique, he would instantly proceed to challenge one with an even higher one. Thus, the results of Lin Ming's alchemy ended in failure, failure, and more failure.

Unconsciously, Lin Ming's spiritual sea was subtly influenced by his alchemy training. Waves began to appear in his originally calm spiritual sea, and underneath the crest of these waves shone a gloriously pale azure color.

The great waves smashed together, causing water to splash everywhere, and slowly infiltrating the spear shaped battle spirit in the skies of the spiritual sea.

This battle spirit was only as thick as a chopstick, was and less than a foot long. It seemed to be made from a dark greenish blue metal, as if it were forged from raw bronze. This was the symbol of a bronze level battle spirit.

It was only because Lin Ming's battle spirit had the attribute of endlessness that it continuously emanated a brilliant azure light.

At a certain moment, the battle spirit suddenly rumbled, issuing a clarion cry. Lin Ming's spiritual sea furiously roiled, forming rocky waves that shot into the sky, swirling and creating a vortex around the little spear.

In such a twisting vortex, the little spear violently shook, making

sounds of excitement.

It slowly began to grow longer, thicker, and the brilliant azure light became increasingly dazzling. Its form became more solid, more primal.

Large success bronze level battle spirit!

Lin Ming suddenly opened both of his eyes. When a martial artist's battle spirit was first born, it would constantly grow with that martial artist's growth in cultivation.

Lin Ming had repeatedly made breakthroughs in his cultivation and will, and along with a few heavenly materials that were able to nourish battle spirits, it had been enough for his battle spirit to reach the peak of small success, where he had been stranded for a very long time.

Now, borrowing the practice of alchemy as his turning point, he had finally broken through the next threshold!

Practicing alchemy could temper the soul. Although a battle spirit belonged to one's martial arts will, it was inextricably twined with the soul. After all, will only existed because of the soul, and was why the battle spirit floated above the skies of the spiritual sea.

The soul was like a sea and a battle spirit was like a fish – a small sea could not raise a big fish.

This was the use of one's soul force. Although it couldn't immediately influence a martial artist's strength, it could actually decide a martial artist's current and future achievements to a large degree.

It was also because of this reason that Demonshine recommended Lin Ming focus on alchemy. At the same time, the closely related inscription technique also couldn't be ignored.

“Large success bronze level battle spirit. I've already surpassed most Divine Sea powerhouses in this aspect, causing my striking force to increase yet again. In addition to my increasing understanding into the Concept of Fire and the Concept of Space, I wonder just how powerful my strongest attack would be. How much stronger has it become?”

“Bury the Heavens, Chain of Stars, Chasing Sun, Chasing Thunder, Penetrating Rainbow, Thunderfire Annihilation. Those are my six self-created moves, of which some are just too singular in their use, and difficult to use too often. It would be good if I could create some newer ones.”

Lin Ming thought out loud. However, what he didn't know was that, if the other extraordinary young elites of the Sky Spill Continent heard his verbal thoughts, they would probably have vomited blood in envy and frustration. After all, they were still studying the legacies left behind by their ancestors. There were many elites that could create a half a skill, but these abilities were often far too limited in their power, and weren't practical for fighting at all. Thus, they had no choice but to continue using the

legacies left behind by their ancestors.

The moves that Lin Ming had self-created actually contained an extremely terrifying strength behind them, however, and could also be used as a final killing blow.

Of course, this was all related to the top quality cultivation methods and lucky chances that he had experienced so far in his life. If Lin Ming wanted to create more moves he would need to experience more lucky chances. These weren't something he could simply imagine up out of thin air.

.....

“What? Not only do you want two ghost spirit crystals, but you also want to take away Heavencraft Xiaoxiao?” Heavencraft Yun was furious as he heard Corpsemancer's conditions. Two ghost spirit crystals was reasonable enough, and he intended to give Corpsemancer some bargaining room. Taking away Heavencraft Xiaoxiao, however...

Everyone knew that the young girls taken away by Corpsemancer all died horrifying and miserable deaths.

Although Heavencraft Yun was not a good man, he still didn't want to push his niece into the very depths of the eighteen layers of hell, as it would be hard for him to find peace of mind. In the future, this would even form a heart demon that would destroy his heart of martial arts.

“What? You don’t agree?” Corpsemancer’s dark, ghostly green eyes stared into Heavencraft Yun. At that time, Heavencraft Yun felt his breath catch in his throat and a chill crawl up his spine, as if he had just been thrust into an icy lake. He didn’t doubt that Corpsemancer would immediately kill him in the next second if he didn’t comply.

“Third Brother, don’t speak.” Heavencraft Xiao moved Heavencraft Yun behind him.

“But!”

“Don’t speak. There is no longer any path left for us to return!”

Chapter 778 – First Battle of the Destiny Decree

Although Heavencraft Xiao couldn't bear to thrust Xiaoxiao into the fiery pit of doom, he was well aware of just what it meant to stand in the Crown Prince's good grace.

The Crown Prince was very ambitious. It was even possible that he would become the most powerful Divine Emperor in the history of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. If he could follow the Crown Prince then he would be able to step onto a larger stage and achieve a greater ideal.

“I'm sorry Xiaoxiao, but a great man must be ruthless. For my descendants, for the future glory of the Heavencraft Trading Company, I can only make you the small sacrifice to achieve the greater good.”

When Corpsemancer saw Heavencraft Xiao nod in agreement, he strangely cackled and said, “A wise man can recognize the situation!”

As he said these words he jumped onto his crow puppet and flew away in a cloud of dust.

Heavencraft Yun was left behind. His face was pallid and his lips trembled. In the end, he merely sighed, not saying anything at all.

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“Little Jade, bring me a basin of water so I can wash my face.” Heavencraft Xiaoxiao ordered a maid.

“Yes, young lady.” A young girl in an aquamarine dress ran to fetch a basin of water and a white towel.

“Little Jade, my eyelids have been jumping all day. I fear that something bad will occur today.”

“Young lady, everything is fine. Don’t you have Sir Lin?” Little Jade chuckled, giving Xiaoxiao a humorous side eye. Xiaoxiao was at the age where she understood matters of love and also knew of the relations between men and women. She was at a similar age with Lin Ming who was strong, talented, handsome, and brave. It would be easy for any girl to fall for him and imagine a life with him.

However, Xiaoxiao simply didn’t have the energy or time to consider these things. All she felt was that she was tired. Very, very tired...

“Little Jade... go and deliver more spirit essence stones to Sir Lin. Also, make sure that Sir Lin’s three meals are all prepared with the best spirit food materials. Don’t –”

As Xiaoxiao spoke to her she suddenly heard a massive explosive sound originating from the front hall as if a thunderbolt had struck the earth. Her complexion immediately changed as she shot up.

“Young lady! Bad news! There’s a battle happening outside!”

A maid ran over in panic. Xiaoxiao rushed into the front hall and her apricot eyes suddenly shot wide open. In the front hall, a servant was stabbed through the throat with a bone lance. He lay face up on the ground, his eyes staring wide like a dead fish; he hadn’t died in peace.

Beside the dead servant was a skinny, skeletal old man who wore a cruel and sadistic expression. His face was full of pins as if he had been stitched from pieces of human skin. His dark ghostly green eyes were like a rabid wolf, and his entire body emitted a hostile, terrifying energy. Just by approaching him one would feel the fire of one’s life rapidly fading away, as if they would extinguish at any given moment.

“Who are you!?”

Xiaoxiao felt a chill crawl down her spine. Her cultivation was only at the Xiantian realm and she wasn’t able to see through this skeletal man’s cultivation in the slightest. But she had a premonition that this man was a terrifying existence; he was absolutely not some unknown nobody.

“Jejeje, this old man’s nickname is Corpsemancer. And you are that little girl Heavencraft Xiaoxiao... not bad, not bad.” Corpsemancer stretched out a scarlet tongue while his ghostly green eyes were observing Xiaoxiao. Then, he said words that made Xiaoxiao’s heart nearly freeze in her chest, “Using your skin

to make a corpse puppet, that will certainly be beautiful indeed.”

“Corpsemancer!” Xiaoxiao’s face whitened to the point where there wasn’t even a touch of red left. Corpsemancer was a character on the Destiny Decree. He was a notorious and infamous individual who had murdered countless innocents. Moreover, his methods of killing were inhumane and grotesque. She didn’t doubt that Corpsemancer would do exactly as he said. If she fell into his hands then that would be a fate a hundred times worse than death. He was simply the devil incarnate.

Sky Spill Continent’s Destiny Decree had a total of 360 individuals ranked upon it. Among there, as long as one was at the sixth stage of Life Destruction then they would be ranked no matter how poor their foundation was. Even if their foundation was bad and they didn’t have too many years remaining they would still rank in the top 200.

As for those at the fifth stage of Life Destruction, most of them were arranged below the top 200.

It was extremely difficult for a fourth stage Life Destruction martial artist to be ranked. The exceptions were if there was something special about their cultivation method or if their talent was unbelievable.

And for Corpsemancer, his cultivation method was exceedingly special. What he cultivated were the corpse puppet techniques and Yin Corpse Laws of the demonic path; he was an incomparably abnormal existence that gave everyone headaches.

Xiaoxiao was the successor of the Heavencraft Trading Company so she naturally knew every single master on the Destiny Decree as well as a great deal of information about them. This was because those individuals were possible customers of the Heavencraft Trading Company.

As she recalled the information of Corpsemancer, she felt as if she had fallen into icy despair. She never imagined that her two uncles would invite a Destiny Decree martial artist.

“There is also someone called Lin Lanjian. Boy, be a good little child and come out to quietly become my experiment subject.” Corpsemancer poured true essence into his voice. His words penetrated through every inch of the Heavencraft Pavilion.

“Corpsemancer, are you looking for me?” Without knowing when, Lin Ming had appeared in a corner of the hall as if he had been standing there all this time. Only Corpsemancer realized that Lin Ming had used some incomparably exquisite movement ability to instantly arrive.

“Hehe, good movement technique, there’s a little bit of meaning to you. You’re so young and yet so strong. You’ll become absolutely great puppet material. This old man really does appreciate you. Thus, I’ll give you a chance to commit suicide so I can take your body. Otherwise, if you fall into my hands, then you won’t even have a chance to beg for death.”

When Corpsemancer chased down martial artists, many of them

chose to commit suicide when they lost all hope of escaping any further. Otherwise, if they fell into his hands then they would have to linger at the border of life for several months, staring helplessly as their own skin, eyes, hands, feet, and everything else was slowly cut and stripped off.

This sort of pain and despair could be imagined.

Lin Ming quietly took out his red long spear. Although this guy in front of him was arrogant, that was because he had the qualifications to be arrogant. He was far more powerful than Xuan Wuji!

Lin Ming had no choice but to go all out in this battle. Moreover, he didn't have complete confidence he could win. This was because he simply didn't know the true depths of Corpsemancer's strength.

As Corpsemancer saw Lin Ming pull out his spear, his grotesque smile widened. "It seems you want to refuse my generous charity? Very well, let me see just how tough your life is."

He then unfolded both his hands. Atop of them were a pair of ghost claws that shined with a cold brilliance. A dim green light flashed intermittently on the edge of the ghost claws; this was corpse poison.

"Sir Lin." Xiaoxiao bit her lips and said to Lin Ming with a true essence sound transmission, "Sir Lin, I sincerely thank you for everything you have done for me so far. Before, we have already agreed that if you were to run into someone that you couldn't deal

with, then the arrangement between us could be terminated at any time. Corpsemancer is ranked somewhere around 330-340 on the Destiny Decree. I am so sorry for having dragged Sir Lin into this mess. If there is a chance, Sir Lin, please escape.”

With every word she said, her face paled ever further. If it were possible she certainly hoped that Lin Ming would stay. However, if Lin Ming couldn't deal with Corpsemancer then there was no meaning in him staying here to die.

As she imagined her fate once she was captured by Corpsemancer, she was terror-stricken.

Lin Ming glanced at Xiaoxiao for a brief moment and responded, “To show mercy to your enemies is to be cruel to yourself. If you don't take advantage of the time when you have absolute superiority to eliminate your enemies then you will inevitably incur the bitter consequences of your own weakness. Remember this and take care!”

After saying this, Lin Ming grasped his red long spear and rushed out of the Heavencraft Pavilion.

Peng!

The great doors that stood several dozen feet high were instantly broken apart by Lin Ming's spear. He then soared out without glancing back.

Xiaoxiao felt as if she had lost her soul at this moment.

To show mercy to your enemies was to be cruel to yourself...

This was the most simple truth that everyone understood. But to truly implement this required great courage and determination.

She closed her trembled eyes. She knew exactly what Lin Ming was referring to. In a situation where she had absolute advantage, she had allowed Heavencraft Yun to freely leave as he willed.

She didn't dare to kill Heavencraft Yun because she feared she couldn't withstand the pressure from the family. She was afraid that Heavencraft Xiao would use this opportunity to punish her, possibly even expel her from the family.

But now, Heavencraft Xiao had taken the advantage to strike the first blow. The only one to suffer would be herself.

“Sir Lin should be escaping... can he escape...?”

As she looked at the broken door and the shattered wood that swayed in the wind, all she felt was incomparable sadness and grief.

Now that Lin Ming had left, she was nothing but a fish on a chopping block; she had no strength to resist.

“Young lady, Corpsemancer is chasing Lin Lanjian. We should take this chance to escape as fast as we can.” The black-clothed old woman nervously said. She then reached out her hand to grab Xiaoxiao.

Xiaoxiao mournfully laughed. She whispered as if she had just lost her very soul, “It’s useless, everything is useless. Corpsemancer has left a mark on my body. I can no longer escape his palm...”

“That Lin Lanjian, he actually runs when we need him the most! Damnit!” The black-clothed old woman angrily said.

“Grandma White, there is no one in this world that should be born to die for us...” Xiaoxiao shook her head. But as her voice fell she suddenly heard a loud thunderous explosion from outside that caused the entire Heavencraft Pavilion to tremble.

Hmm?

Xiaoxiao ran several steps out of the broken door. From here, she could see that several miles away, Lin Ming and Corpsemancer were flying high in the sky, their clothes flapping wildly in the wind.

Beneath them, the bustling and lively Witch Creek City sprawled out to the endless horizon.

The air still reverberated with intense true essence shockwaves.

It was obvious that a great battle was brewing.

“Lin Lanjian intends to battle Corpsemancer? The reason he ran out of Heavencraft Pavilion was because he feared their battle affecting the others inside?”

For some time, Xiaoxiao was lost in thought. And beside her, Grandma White was also stunned. Although she had complained about Lin Ming just now, those were only words said under a veil of angry and helpless desperation. She was well aware that what Lin Ming had done was completely reasonable. After all, their agreement had been that their contract would become invalid once Lin Ming met a powerhouse that he couldn't contend with.

And even if there was no such agreement, Lin Ming escaping was also completely understandable.

If it had been her in Lin Ming's position, she would also escape at this time. Only a complete fool would die for a stranger.

However, she never imagined that Lin Ming would actually decide to fight Corpsemancer.

At this time within Witch Creek City, whether it was martial artists or common mortals, every single person had raised their heads to see the scene unfolding up in the sky.

Witch Creek City was a medium to large scale city of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. In this city there were naturally a vast

number of considerably experienced masters. They were all able to instantly distinguish that these two people up in the air were top class powerhouses.

In particular that skinny skeletal fellow who was wrapped in white cloth; he was definitely a master amongst masters!

Who were they? They dared to fight in Witch Creek City?

The powerhouses of Witch Creek City were bewildered.

Of course, most of these martial artists were below Revolving Core; they couldn't see through Lin Ming and Corpsemancer's cultivation.

“Those two actually dare to fight in the skies of Witch Creek City! This is far too brazen!”

“That's right! Fighting is prohibited within Witch Creek City. This is the general rule of every large city. If these two people dare to blatantly ignore the rules in front of everyone then their punishment will be death!”

Chapter 779 – The Great Battle of Witch Creek City

Large cities naturally had the law and order of large cities, otherwise, they simply couldn't be called a city. There would be no difference between them and the barbaric wilds filled with bandits and strife.

In Witch Creek City, all who took part in public fighting would suffer severe punishment. Anyone who ignored warnings would even be executed.

“The city guards are on their way. Then there will truly be a good show to watch, haha!”

And as everyone expected, the city guards quickly caught up. The captain of them was a man named Rong Lin. Before everyone arrived he shouted out, “Just who the hell do you two think you are!? You dare to fight so openly in my Witch Creek City! How insolent!”

As the captain of the city guards, he was generally a solemn and dignified character. Usually, just a single shout from him was enough to frighten others and solve any problem.

But this time, after he shouted out his warning, he was actually ignored. He stared with eyes wide open, as his vision tightly locked onto that skinny skeleton old man that was flying in the air. Then, his complexion completely paled.

“C-Corpsemancer!?”

He was petrified the spot.

“Captain, those two fellows are far too arrogant, they actually dare to fight in the skies of my Witch Creek City! They are courting death!” Beside Rong Lin, another city guard that had relied on family connections to join suddenly spoke up. He was a young martial artist that served as Rong Lin’s deputy.

“Captain, why don’t you tell them to lay down their weapons so we can quickly capture them?” The young martial artist looked at Rong Lin in puzzlement.

However, Rong Lin remained completely silent while his complexion was becoming increasingly ugly.

Well, if the captain wasn’t going to do it then he would do it for him. The young martial artist felt that shouting out loud and grabbing everyone’s attention would be a very glorious act.

“To those listening above! We are –”

The young man only just started shouting when Rong Lin jumped like a cat and quickly covered the young man’s mouth.

“Do you want to die!?”

Rong Lin's entire forehead was covered with nervous sweat. In every Divine Kingdom, there were only several dozen Destiny Decree characters and most of them were in long term seclusion. They simply lived like hermits for the majority of their life.

If they were a central ruling figure of a mortal nation, then Rong Lin could only be considered a middle class city guard official. The disparity in status could be imagined.

And most fearful of all was that Corpsemancer was an infamous fellow known for his capricious cruelty. Anyone that fell into his hands would suffer a fate worse than death!

He would rather face a top 200 ranked Destiny Decree character than have to cross paths with Corpsemancer. This was because Corpsemancer could randomly kill someone without even batting an eye!

“Captain?” The young man asked somewhat unhappy.

“Everyone obey my command! Evacuate the crowd and isolate the scene! Without my orders, no one can speak a single word of nonsense and absolutely no one can interfere! All offenders will be brutally punished!”

As Rong Lin spoke to here he suddenly saw that the skeletal man floating in the air shot a glance at him. The skeletal man smiled, revealing a blood red tongue and bone white teeth.

It was just a single look but Rong Lin was filled with fear and terror. It was like an icy bone lance had been thrust into his heart.

Rong Lin trembled with dread. He waved his hand and said, “Everyone, retreat ten miles out!”

“What?”

“F*ck! I told you to retreat, so retreat! That fellow above us is a Destiny Decree master!” Rong Lin originally didn’t want to reveal the status of Corpsemancer, but as he saw that the young martial artist wasn’t convinced, and even had an eager look to butt his way in, he had no choice but to announce a bit of Corpsemancer’s information.

“De-de-de-Destiny Decree!?” The young martial artist was not an idiot. In fact, upon hearing the name of the famous Destiny Decree, everyone was shaken to their cores. They were all well aware just what that implied.

“Is there a mistake? If that skeletal old man is a Destiny Decree master, then what about his opponent? He’s obviously just a 20 some year old youth, and his cultivation... his cultivation is... at the late Revolving Core realm!?”

“Yes, he is only at the late Revolving Core realm and his opponent is Corpsemancer. That young man is insane!” Rong Lin’s eyes blazed as he looked at Lin Ming. As captain of the city guard he naturally had an understanding toward all the top level

characters of the four Divine Kingdoms. However, he couldn't recall the slightest bit of information about Lin Ming.

It wasn't just the city guard, but all observing martial artists discovered that the difference in cultivation of the two flying in the air was simply too great.

“Is this a life or death battle, or a senior advising a junior?”

“He's definitely directing him. Don't make too much of a fuss, that old man might be that youth's master. He will certainly suppress his strength to a degree.”

Woosh! Woosh!

Two shadows flew to a distant point 10 miles away from the battlefield. These two people were Grandma White and Xiaoxiao.

“Lin Lanjian Isn't someone from my Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom nor is he someone from the other three Divine Kingdoms. It's probable that he hasn't heard the fame of the Destiny Decree yet, thus he rashly acted. Young miss, this is our only chance. If we continue watching the battle from here then it's the same as waiting to die.” Grandma White anxiously said.

If Lin Ming really were a junior of the four Divine Kingdoms then it would be impossible that someone with a talent as monstrous and unprecedented as his could remain obscure. Thus, she only thought that Lin Ming came from some faraway region and didn't

know just how fierce the ranked masters of the Destiny Decree were.

Let alone Lin Ming, even that senior that knew Xiaoxiao's father couldn't be ranked on the Destiny Decree.

“Grandma White, there is a mark planted on my body; escape is no longer possible. I have already accepted my fate. I would rather stay here and watch Young Hero Lin's battle. Perhaps, there is even a small glimmer of hope that Young Hero Lin can create an opening for us. At that time we'll attack together, and even if we can't win, we can still die an honorable death!”

“Alright...” Grandma White shook her head, no longer attempting to convince Xiaoxiao.

At this time, more and more martial artists began filling the skies. All of them felt that something was off about this situation. How come that the usually blustering and swaggering city guards didn't take this chance to bring these law breakers down?

Meanwhile, up in the skies, Lin Ming and Corpsemancer had already faced each other for over 20 breaths of time.

Lin Ming was the first to make a move.

Bang!

Before his long spear even shot out, double force fields were

already erupting outward.

The Asura force field combined with the Death God force field as the dual force fields were released together!

A tide of power rushed out in all directions, setting off a horrifying storm of energy.

The Death God force field, annihilating all life vitality.

The Asura force field, universal suppression of a martial artist's strength and soul!

The air trembled. Most of those martial artists floating in the air and watching the scene weren't masters. They hadn't yet been able to figure out just how Lin Ming's strength contrasted with Corpsemancer, but now as Lin Ming's force field enveloped the entire battlefield, all of them became nothing more than leaves in a storm, scattering or collapsing in all directions! The slightly weaker martial artists, even if they were an entire mile away from Lin Ming, still vomited out a mouthful of blood as they were severely injured!

“What is that!?”

All of the martial artists were dumbfounded. Was this the power released by that youth?

“What kind of killing intent is this?” Xiaoxiao forcefully gulped.

Lin Ming had never used this power when he fought the Elders of the Heavencraft Family. It was clear now that he didn't think it was needed at the time.

“This is a force field ability, moreover he has dual force fields!” Grandma White recognized just what sort of skill Lin Ming had used. Force field abilities were exceedingly rare; even a supremely talented junior of the four Divine Kingdoms wouldn't necessarily have one. It was a highly revered and respected ability.

This was not because a force field was freakishly strong, but because a force field could coexist alongside martial skills. It could invisibly increase a martial artist's strength or have a number of other effects without affecting the martial artist's fighting ability at all.

“Hehe, boy, I like you more and more. Once I turn you into a puppet I can keep your force fields. This is far too perfect! Force fields are the ability that puppet masters love the most!” Corpsemancer sinisterly smiled and his ghostly eyes were gleaming.

A powerful puppet master could restore most of the special abilities a martial artist had before death. In fact, a puppet's power could even be raised through the passage of time with the application of a number of arcane skills.

“You really love dreaming.”

Lin Ming barked out a short laugh and flourished his spear. He

poured his battle spirit into it and thrust out. The inherent power of thunderfire broke through the shackles of space, and with a keening cry, a turbulent wave of energy began to rise up from all around.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Space nearly collapsed. Lin Ming's spear instantly passed a 1000 feet forward, thrusting straight between Corpsemancer's eyebrows.

Corpsemancer creepily laughed as his withered claws suddenly grasped forward. A black ghost claw appeared out of thin air and shot out towards Lin Ming.

As the claw shot forward a cold wind swirled up around it, as if countless grieving ghosts formed the black ghost claw that issued mournful wails.

Kacha!

The spear and sharp claw collided together. The ghost claw disintegrated, but Lin Ming's spear light also melted away like white snow under the scorching sun.

True essence shockwaves rolled up in massive waves. All of the surrounding martial artists quickly retreated as their complexions immediately changed.

It had become crystal clear to everyone here that these two evil stars were simply ancient vicious beasts in human form. If they were caught up in the ensuing storm of energy then there wouldn't be anything left of them, not even their ashes!

As for Xiaoxiao and Grandma White, they weren't affected because they were very far away to begin with. But they could still feel that horrifying energy that rampaged about, even from such a distance.

“This should only be a testing move. I have no idea how much strength Lin Lanjian used, but if that is the majority of his strength then there isn't even a slim chance that he'll win. Corpsemancer hasn't even brought out his puppets yet.”

Grandma White's face was filled with worry. When Lin Ming had unleashed his dual force fields, a faint hope lit up in her heart. She had been slightly optimistic that Lin Ming might be able to create a miracle or even last a period of time against Corpsemancer. In such a massive fight, there would definitely be other masters arriving if it lasted long enough. At that time, there might be a chance for a favorable turn of events.

“How interesting! So interesting!”

Corpsemancer's skin stitched face became more and more excited. He swiped his special ring and a massive demon puppet rushed out. There were two great wings on its back and its entire body was wreathed in thick, dark blue muscles that were as solid as rock.

Giant Demon?

Lin Ming's mind went cold. This was actually a Giant Demon puppet! Just where had Corpsemancer managed to obtain the corpse of a Giant Demon?

“That is the puppet technique and also a Giant Demon puppet! That man must be...”

Some of the surrounding martial artists recognized the Giant Demon puppet. Although they didn't recognize Corpsemancer, they did manage to recognize that puppet. In truth, top masters that wielded puppets were nearly extinct.

Thinking of all of them, there was only a single person that was this famous for their puppet technique.

And then combining that with this sinister and ominous old man's cultivation, the truth of his identity finally revealed itself.

“The Destiny Decree ranked 330, Corpsemancer!”

“Corpsemancer? Is that really him!?”

“Heavens! No wonder the city guards don't dare to do anything! That old man is actually Corpsemancer... Then just who is that youth? Did that young man come out of nowhere?”

At this time, no one said anymore that the fight unfolding in the air was a senior directing a junior. Corpsemancer was absolutely not the type to do so, and Lin Ming's cultivation method was completely different from his.

This was a true life or death battle!

For a late Revolving Core powerhouse to challenge the Destiny Decree ranked 330, Corpsemancer, in a life or death battle...

This was madness!

Chapter 780 – Stepping Onto the Highest Stage

“This is a Giant Demon puppet that I carefully crafted myself. I call it... the Gargoyle. Let me take a good look at just how many of my puppets you can force me to use!”

Giant Demon puppet? So it seemed that the Sky Spill Continent also had a Giant Demon race. Just where had this Giant Demon corpse come from?

The Sky Spill Continent and the Holy Demon Continent were both isolated from each other. The last time that they had contact with each other was likely when the Netherworld Great Emperor traveled to the Sky Spill Continent through the Demon Emperor’s transmission array and then later on founded the Silent Demon Emperor City.

If it was said that there were Giant Demon skeletons from thousands of years ago then Lin Ming wouldn’t be surprised. But, puppet techniques required the use of fresh corpses in order to function properly. This meant that one of the four Divine Kingdoms had members of the Giant Demon race within them.

“Where is your Giant Demon corpse from?” Lin Ming directly asked.

“Hehe, of course it comes from the Asura Divine Kingdom. Is that so strange? This old man has no interest in bantering with the likes of you. Now die!”

Corpsemancer gave a loud shout and the Giant Demon puppet extracted a 15 foot axe before cutting it down towards Lin Ming.

As this axe cut out, roiling black clouds followed behind it. This was obviously the demon essence that the Giant Demon race used. Although it was similar to true essence, they had essential differences between them.

An astounding puppet master could reproduce all the abilities that the deceased had before their death. Demon essence was no exception.

‘The Asura Divine Kingdom actually has the Giant Demon race; that is beyond my expectations.’ Lin Ming shook his long spear, filling it with the Concept of Fire as he smashed it against the Giant Demon’s axe.

But at this time, there was a crackling sound as a two foot section of the axe broke off. A thick chain pulled out from the shaft, causing the entire weapon to turn into something like a bola.

With special devices and traps everywhere, it was nearly impossible to guard against. This was one of the special characteristics of puppets.

Ka ka ka!

Lin Ming’s red long spear was caught in the chain. At the same

time, the axehead was pulled by the chain, smashing straight towards Lin Ming's head.

At such a close distance, for such a change to happen in the axe was truly a sinister combat technique. Moreover, since Lin Ming's spear was twisted into that chain he was unable to dodge it. Unless he abandoned his spear and retreated, his only option would be to directly block that axe.

But to a martial artist, their weapon was their life. To abandon their weapon in battle was equal to disillusioning their own heart of martial arts.

“Sir Lin!”

Xiaoxiao couldn't help but cry out in alarm as she watched the battle from a distance.

All of the surrounding martial artists also watched with wide eyes, waiting to see just how this junior would fight against such a top genius.

But at this moment, Lin Ming appeared nothing but serene. He shook the long spear in his hands.

The large success bronze battle spirit erupted!

Kacha!

With a shattering sound, that chain as thick as an arm was directly broken apart by Lin Ming!

Soon after, Lin Ming's spear thrust forwards, piercing through that half foot thick axe with an unstoppable and sharp spear light that stabbed towards Corpsemancer's head.

“Mm?”

Corpsemancer was bewildered. This was... a battle spirit!?

With his sight and experience he naturally recognized that this was a battle spirit. Lin Ming only had a mere late Revolving Core cultivation and yet his battle spirit was so keen; how could he not be shocked?

Bang!

Lin Ming's spear stabbed into a white bone shield. At that moment, in front of Corpsemancer, another puppet appeared. This puppet looked like a giant turtle. What Lin Ming had pierced through was its shell.

As the spear punctured the shell, although the shell didn't break, cracks still appeared, spreading out like a spider web.

All of the martial artists present could clearly see what happened.

A spear had broken apart the axe and simultaneously broke through the first level of armor of another puppet. This striking power was freakishly abnormal!

“So you comprehended a large success battle spirit. It seems I truly underestimated you, no wonder you would dare to fight me.” Corpsemancer’s ghostly green eyes flashed with a blazing light. He licked his lips and coldly said, “I have now decided to sincerely kill you.”

Lin Ming’s talent far surpassed Corpsemancer’s estimations. To have such an enemy, and for him to be so young, Corpsemancer naturally couldn’t allow him to live. Otherwise, his future troubles would be endless.

“Complete body!”

With a loud shout, Corpsemancer’s skinny skeletal body began emitting loud crackling sounds. The white cloth that bound his body like a mummy ripped apart and a pair of blood-red wings unfurled. After the wings stretched out they were more than 10 feet long; they appeared like the wings of a giant bat.

At the same time, scales began to appear all over Corpsemancer’s face. His arms lengthened and his claws became even larger, a chillingly cold light shining from them.

After the initial probing strike, Corpsemancer was now ready to go all-out.

Lin Ming was solemn. After reaching this boundary, no other junior was his opponent. If he wanted to fight he could only challenge those old monsters that had been stranded in the Life Destruction realm for hundreds of years. In front of these existences, Lin Ming was still far too young.

There were several small boundaries within the Life Destruction realm. From the first stage to the seventh stage of Life Destruction, the difference was approximate to the difference between the Houtian realm and the Revolving Core realm.

For the late Revolving Core Lin Ming to challenge a Destiny Decree master, that meant that he had now transcended the struggles of juniors and transitioned into fighting powerhouses of the older generation. At this moment, Lin Ming had truly stepped onto the highest stage of the Sky Spill Continent.

Corpsemancer extracted a massive scythe from his spatial ring. The scythe blade glowed with a cold light and its entire body was deep black. It looked like the scythe of the grim reaper.

As the scythe appeared, a limitless amount of resentment and malice filled the air, as if countless ghosts were weeping and screaming around the scythe.

“What is this sound? It pains the ears!”

“It’s drilling into my brain. The scythe is calling to me!”

All of the surrounding martial artists only felt as if countless demonic spirits were screaming into their ears. This sound seemed to have enormous penetrative power. Even if they covered their ears the sound still passed through, drilling directly into their spiritual sea.

As the martial artists with weaker cultivations heard this sound they felt as if their heads were about to crack open and all of the blood drained out from their faces.

“Hurry up and retreat!”

Some martial artists shook their hands as if they had awakened from a nightmare and began calling out warnings. However, many people were unable to withdraw under the effects of this sonic attack. They lost consciousness and fell down from the skies.

“This is the Evil Hate Scythe that Corpsemancer forged from countless suffering souls and lives. Every strike contains a near-endless amount of grudge and resentment; it can destroy a martial artist’s will!”

“If just hearing the sound of it is so terrifying, then what will happen if it cuts down on you!?”

Lin Ming bore the attack. As he was enveloped in the energy field of resentment from the Evil Hate Scythe, his face remained expressionless.

He could clearly hear this resentment colliding with his own dual force fields. 'This Corpsemancer, it seems he really transformed his own body into a puppet.'

A high level puppet master's greatest strength lay in their own bodies. This was because their bodies made the best puppets. Once their skeletons and meridians were modified beyond all recognition, their defensive power would far surpass a general martial artist's.

To be invulnerable themselves and also be able to coordinate three or four puppets together, a powerful martial artist would have an extreme headache if they bumped into a formidable puppet master.

As Corpsemancer brought out his complete body, his two eyes had already transformed from a ghostly green to a deep blood red. He grabbed the long scythe in both hands and unfolded his wings. Then, he silently slid forwards like ghosts and demons; his speed was shocking!

All of the observing martial artists tarried. All they saw was a flash as Corpsemancer appeared in front of Lin Ming, his black scythe rapidly cutting down! This sort of speed was in no way inferior to Lin Ming's Golden Roc Shattering the Void!

Too fast!

Lin Ming was already horrified. This wasn't teleportation, but it was a speed that made it seem as if there were no difference!

“Nether Strike!”

The black scythe seemed to emerge from space. It cut through space, carrying with it endless resentment and howls from mourning ghosts as it slashed towards Lin Ming. This attack hadn't even arrived and yet its aura was so terrifying!

Lin Ming waved his spear. Facing this all-out Corpsemancer, Lin Ming naturally didn't dare to hold back.

Law of Annihilation, Chain of Stars!

A spear ran up to meet the enemy. The Concept of Fire and the Concept of Space were poured into the spear, causing all of the heaven and earth origin energy in a 10 mile radius to restlessly move. The fire energy and the power of space fused together, condensed into tiny little fragments that rapidly spun around like a chain of stars, shrouding down towards Corpsemancer.

Ca!

The tiny fragments of fire and space struck with the resentment of the black scythe, creating a harsh keening noise to split the air.

Lin Ming's spear crossed with the black scythe. A terrifying wave of true essence exploded, causing the atmosphere to vibrate. They were nearly evenly matched!

During the battle, Corpsemancer revealed a diabolical grin. Not only did he have his own attack but he also had puppets!

As Corpsemancer struck out with the Nether Strike attack, the Giant Demon puppet and the great turtle puppet also attacked. The Giant Demon puppet turned the axe shaft in his hands, turning it into a makeshift long spear as he thrust out at Lin Ming's back. At the same time, the great turtle puppet opened its vast maw and spat out a beam of black energy.

These two attacks joined together. Their combined power just was slightly less than Corpsemancer's own Nether Strike.

This was an attack from the front and back!

"Sir Lin, be careful!" Xiaixiao shouted out. Her life was now linked together with Lin Ming's – how could she not be tense? If Lin Ming was defeated, she would suffer a fate worse than death.

At this critical moment, Lin Ming took a sudden step forwards. Space twisted underneath his feet. Although it looked as if he had only taken a casual step forwards, he had actually crossed a mile, causing both of the puppets' attacks to miss.

Lin Ming stood in the skies. A mile away from Corpsemancer, he pointed his spear point right at him.

"I'm also confident in my speed. Although my long distance speed may not reach the degree of your twin black wings."

Bang!

Dozens of miles away, the black beam of energy released by the great turtle puppet smashed into a mountainside, causing an entire rock shelf to collapse.

Watching Lin Ming and Corpsemancer fighting in the air, everyone present felt as if they had lost their breath.

This was the showdown of Destiny Decree masters. Although the Sky Spill Continent had over 100 Divine Sea powerhouses, all of these existences were secretive individuals that almost never appeared. Most of them had hidden themselves in seclusion for countless years.

Without the Divine Sea, the Destiny Decree was king!

The Destiny Decree was equivalent to the highest stage of the Sky Spill Continent!

“Space Laws? What a pleasant surprise.” Corpsemancer sinisterly laughed. As Lin Ming had said, that extreme speed of Corpsemancer’s came from the pair of wings on his back. In terms of long distance travel, he was faster than Lin Ming. But, in short distances, he was actually slower than Lin Ming. Lin Ming’s Golden Roc Shattering the Void was able to twist space, with a single step, approaching teleportation. This was the strength of Laws. As for those black wings behind Corpsemancer, they were merely heaven-step flight treasures.

“You are indeed an unrivalled talent. Only killing someone like you can bring me sweet pleasure! Jejejeje!”

Chapter 781 – The Demon Emperor’s Armor

When Corpsemancer had finished speaking, he traced his spatial ring, and another puppet came flying out. It was a humanoid puppet that was wearing a set of armor made entirely of bone. Its body burned with dark green corpse fire; simply looking at the flickering flames caused one to feel a chill in their soul.

“That’s likely the bat puppet recorded on the Destiny Decree.”

“Those ghostly green flames... you shouldn’t be wrong. That’s a puppet refined from the corpse of another Destiny Decree master!”

Martial artists had a formidable level of soul force, and thus had near-photographic memory. Nearly everyone present had memorized all of the information on the 360 masters of the Destiny Decree. Most of the famous abilities used by these masters were recorded on the Destiny Decree.

And the puppet that Corpsemancer had brought out was his strongest puppet yet—the bat.

The bat puppet was refined from a Destiny Decree master that Corpsemancer had killed in order to be listed on the Destiny Decree himself. At the time, Corpsemancer’s strongest puppet had been cut down by that master, and completely destroyed. Thus, after Corpsemancer had killed the Destiny Decree master, he used his corpse as the foundation for an even stronger, more powerful puppet. And that was the bat puppet in front of them. By relying on this puppet, he’d managed to become the 330th ranked

character of the Destiny Decree.

Not only was he using the bat puppet, but he simultaneously used the Evil Hate Scythe. This proved that Corpsemancer had been forced to bring out all of his combat strength!

Corpsemancer had become infamous for over 300 years ago; he was now over 500 years old. As for Lin Ming, he was only in his early twenties. They were people from completely different eras.

“Being able to force Corpsemancer to this step, regardless of whether he wins or loses, just that is enough to be proud of.” Rong Lin thought out loud. He didn’t know who this youth flying in the air was, but without a doubt, if he managed to live through this, he’d become an extraordinary figure that shook the entire Sky Spill Continent.

Huuu-!

High up in the sky, strong heavenly winds were surging. The bat puppet then extended its pair of black wings. In only a moment, it arrived in front of Lin Ming. It stretched out its claws, which shimmered with ghostly blue flames, and grasped at Lin Ming’s neck.

Lin Ming gripped his spear, his posture becoming as immovable and steadfast as an ancient mountain. The power of thunder and fire poured into the red spear at the same time. The spear issued an excited keening cry as it fiercely shook.

Penetrating Rainbow!

The power of thunder and fire fused together. A brilliant beam of blazing light cut through the vast blue skies like a sharp sword, and was as bright as a blazing sun as it tore through the void. Lin Ming's spear solidly crashed into the bat puppet's claws.

Clang!

A metallic ringing echoed out in the air. The bat puppet's defensive power was as strong as if it were a heaven-step treasure. A generic martial artist could forget about ever breaking through its defenses. However, Lin Ming's attack wasn't normal; it contained a large success bronze level battle spirit!

Kacha!

The bat puppet's claws were abruptly torn off from Lin Ming's strike!

"Accept your fate boy!" Corpsemancer shimmered into existence like a ghost directly behind Lin Ming. His eyes gleamed with manic light as he raised his black scythe then cut towards Lin Ming's open back.

Endless resentment poured outwards, as if ten thousand grieving ghosts were crying in unison. This resentment condensed into substantialized energy and shot into Lin Ming's spiritual sea.

Peng! Peng! Peng! Peng! Peng!

Under the dual support of the Samsara martial intent and his battle spirit, Lin Ming's spiritual sea was simply an unassailable iron wall. As the power of resentment entered his spiritual sea, it was immediately burnt to ash and smoke.

Burning Star Flame!

The Heretical God Seed trembled. The highly compressed Burning Star Flame then erupted from the Heretical God Seed.

This was the power of a heaven-step Flame Essence!

Which a sizzling 'chi chi chi', all of the spirits attached to Corpsemancer's scythe were burnt to nothingness.

Law of Annihilation, Chain of Stars!

Lin Ming thrust his spear outwards. All of the heaven and earth origin energy in a radius of ten miles was stirred up by him, then concentrated into countless fragments of light that sparkled like the endless number of stars in the sky, before it all fell downwards. From far away, it looked like a sparkling galaxy had crashed into the earth!

Such an apocalyptic scene left everyone shocked.

Bang!

With an explosion, Lin Ming, Corpsemancer, and the bat puppet were all thrown backwards.

A trace of blood flowed out the edge of Lin Ming's mouth. However, Corpsemancer's shoulder had been pierced through by the spear light!

When the martial artists of Witch Creek City saw this fight from far away, all of them were shocked speechless. Corpsemancer's body had gone through the transformative process of puppet techniques. In exchange for a body that couldn't be called human nor ghost, he'd received a body with durability equal to a treasure. Yet he'd still been wounded by Lin Ming!

This was an incalculably strong strike.

Bang bang bang!

An incomparably brutal melee ensued as Lin Ming collided with Corpsemancer again and again. Their movements were so fast that any martial artist below the Life Destruction realm was entirely unable to even make out their movements. Lin Ming's body was tough from the start, and he excelled at frontal combat. However, Corpsemancer and his bat puppet were the same.

They were in sharp opposition!

“Bury the Heavens!”

Lin Ming revolved the energy of his Eight Inner Hidden Gates to the limit. He thrust his spear out, and several massive cracks appeared in space. The power of space surged out from these cracks, twisting into a savage spacial storm.

The Burning Star Flame ignited atop the red spear, becoming even more vivid and fierce as it fused with the spacial storm.

This was the fusion of fire and space!

This spear contained Lin Ming’s complete understanding of both the Concepts of Space and of Fire. At the same time, he also poured his large success bronze battle spirit within it.

On the other side, Corpsemancer stepped forward, and fused with his bat puppet. Then, with the sound of a wailing ghost, the bat puppet’s body suddenly rapidly inflated, with a number of bones stabbing out from within its body!

Ribs, leg bones, arm bones... all sorts of long bones had been turned into white bony lances. At the same time, ghostly green flames burned atop every bony lance!

In the briefest of moments, the bat puppet had become extremely hideous.

“Take my strongest attack! 18,000 Deaths!”

In the blink of an eye, all of those bony lances, as well as the black scythe, shot towards Lin Ming.

18,000 was not some random number, there really were that many attacks. The attacks overwhelmed covered the sky, blotting out the sun, and blocking all avenues of escape.

From afar, it looked like both Lin Ming and Corpsemancer had been trapped in a sea of bones!

Xiaoxiao's heart tightened.

“Chi!”

“Chi!”

“Chi!”

“Chi!”

Mournful wails reverberated through both the clouds and earth—as if the entire world was crying together. Lin Ming revolved the Heretical God Force to the limit, his eyes blazing like two twin infernos. The Flame Essence atop his spear seemed ready to explode at any given moment.

“Break!”

With ‘Bury the Heavens’, several thousand bone lances were crushed to pieces. However, over 10,000 remained, which shot towards Lin Ming the same as before!

Lin Ming waved his spear as if it were a dancing red flood dragon. Shattered bone lances were everywhere, and bone dust endlessly rained down from the skies.

A strong heavenly wind wildly surged through the skies. Lin Ming’s black hair flapped in the wind. He tirelessly waved his spear, as if he didn’t know what exhaustion was—he was like a demon god incarnate!

“Bury the Heavens!”

Lin Ming ignored everything, and consecutively used Bury the Heavens twice. A dazzling black light was suddenly ejected from the sea of bones, directly sent flying into the horizon. Soon afterwards, countless brilliantly dazzling golden lights shot out from every all over the sea of bones. A sun seemed to rise within the sea of bones, emitting golden light as sharp as a sword that could cut through everything. The countless bones in the sky began to disintegrate like collapsing sand sculptures.

An immeasurable amount of bone dust flew everywhere. It covered the skies, becoming a white fog that filled the heavens and earth.

“Go die!”

Lin Ming forcefully cut a path through the sea of bones, thrusting his spear at Corpsemancer.

At this time, Corpsemancer had already separated from the bat puppet, and they were floating several dozen feet away from each other. Corpsemancer's blood red eyes had turned vacant. At some unknown point, the black Evil Hate Scythe had returned to his hands. Black corpse flames ignited into a blazing inferno atop the scythe's edge.

“Nether Strike, Locking Yin and Yang!”

With a slight movement of his lips, Corpsemancer spoke these words. Then, all of the resentment within the black scythe suddenly fused into a single mass, which locked the surrounding space!

Lin Ming's spear had already been thrust out. However, Corpsemancer had no intention of dodging this strike. Instead, he used the Evil Hate Scythe to cut towards Lin Ming's waist!

Lin Ming only felt the power of resentment wrap around his body; he found himself unable to dodge!

If he were to bring out the Burning Star Flame, then he could reduce the power of resentment to nothing in just a few breaths of time. But by then, Corpsemancer's attack would have already struck him.

Their attacks were completely designed such that they would perish together!

Lin Ming had absolute confidence in his own defensive ability, but Corpsemancer did too!

Whose defensive power was superior?

This thought flashed through Lin Ming's mind, but he instantly rejected it. In this situation, with his strongest attack that also had his large success battle spirit poured into it, no matter how strong the Corpsemancer's strength was, it would still pierce through his skill!

Lin Ming didn't believe that Corpsemancer didn't value his own life above all else.

“Bury the Heavens!”

Facing this inescapable blow, he simply didn't think of avoiding it. Instead, he poured all of his true essence into the red spear, issuing out his final, most brilliant strike!

The power of fire and the power of space had perfectly fused together. The might of this spear was earthshaking!

However, Lin Ming didn't stab towards Corpsemancer. Instead,

he threw his spear towards the bat puppet.

“Go!”

The red spear flew out from his hands, crossing the skies like a blazing rainbow!

With a light piercing sound, the bat puppet's head was pierced by the spear light. Its skull was cracked apart, and brain fluid shot out!

At the same time, Corpsemancer's scythe cut into Lin Ming's waist. Lin Ming's bodily protective true essence was instantly melted away, and corpse fire burnt through Lin Ming's clothes. The scythe seemed as if it would split him apart. However at that moment, the scythe's blade was actually blocked by something.

As Lin Ming's robes burned away, it revealed a jet black armor. This was the Demon Emperor's armor that Lin Ming had taken out from the Cosmic Melting Furnace!

The Demon Emperor's armor could weaken the majority of an attack, but it wasn't an absolute defense. Some of the leftover Yin energy rampaged through Lin Ming's body, recklessly tearing through his meridians.

Lin Ming's complexion paled, and he spat out a mouthful of blood.

Corpsemancer's final attack had severely wounded him.

If it weren't for the Demon Emperor's armor, Lin Ming might have died here. It was hard to say whether or not his body's physical defense could withstand Corpsemancer's strike.

"It's over?"

"What happened?"

Everyone looked on, dumbfounded, at Corpsemancer's scythe that was embedded in Lin Ming's waist. As for Lin Ming's spear, it was stuck through the bat puppet's head.

Corpsemancer stood stock still in front of Lin Ming, completely uninjured.

"Did the bat puppet block that youth's final attack for its master?"

"No wait, why do I feel that the youth intentionally attacked the bat puppet?"

"Not unless that youth is an idiot. In a fight against a puppet master, you definitely have to attack the main body. Only an idiot would attack the puppet!"

The final exchange of moves had happened too fast. Almost no

one had been able to clearly see what happened.

Chapter 782 – Killing Corpsemancer

“Could that youth have been hacked to death by Corpsemancer?”

“What an idiot. He actually attacked Corpsemancer’s puppet at the last moment. Was his brain fried or something?” A Xiantian martial artist asked out loud with a mocking smirk.

“Shut up!” An old man near him coldly humphed, “Do you think that everyone is as stupid as you are? That youth is one of Sky Spill Continent’s favored sons of heaven! It’s impossible that he wouldn’t know how to battle a puppet master!”

The Xiantian martial artist looked a bit ugly as he was reprimanded. Still, he began mumbling to himself, obviously not convinced.

“Something’s wrong. Corpsemancer wasn’t injured but why is he standing still there? Could that youth have attacked Corpsemancer somehow and we didn’t notice?”

“Just who won? What’s happening here?”

Ten miles away, Xiaoxiao gripped her chest as her heart tightened in pain. Lin Ming and Corpsemancer were both immobile; this made her incomparably nervous.

To her, Lin Ming’s victory or defeat was the difference between heaven and hell.

“Grandma.”

“Don’t worry, that Lin Lanjian is alright. But that Corpsemancer... Lin Lanjian obviously could have attacked Corpsemancer at the last moment, but he chose to attack the bat puppet instead. I really don’t understand what is going on here...”

As the black-clothed old woman spoke halfway, a scene that left all martial artists confounded occurred. That Corpsemancer who was in front of Lin Ming suddenly fell from the sky, smashing into the ground!

Everyone was shocked. Just what was going on!?

Lin Ming’s face was pallid as he reached out a hand and released a wisp of his battle spirit. The red long spear shot out and returned to Lin Ming’s hand.

Then, everyone found that above Lin Ming’s spearpoint, there was actually some fat meaty thing stuck atop it. And that thing was still convulsing and wriggling around.

This was actually a human brain!

As Lin Ming saw this white and glistening human brain, he let out a long breath.

It was over.

A puppet master could transform any part of their body, but there was one place that they couldn't change. That was – their spiritual sea!

The spiritual sea depended on the brain to exist. Corpsemancer's body had already been altered beyond all recognition. Now, his only true existence was his brain.

Zi zi zi!

The brain mass on Lin Ming's spearpoint was actually fiercely struggling. Moreover, it was sending out grating screams, vacillating up and down as if it were a giant fat white worm.

Lin Ming could feel words flowing into his spiritual sea. "Don't kill me! I will give you puppet techniques; I can tell you all the secrets of the Asura Divine Kingdom! With your talent and my knowledge, you can grasp the entire Sky Spill Continent in your hands and rule the world! It's impossible for you to find out what I know, even if I don't tell you of my own volition. Don't think of using the soul searching technique on me; I can self-destruct my spiritual sea!"

"I don't need you to self-destruct. In fact, I'll help annihilate you!" Lin Ming sneered, having no intention of bantering with this thing. He had absolutely no desire to learn anything like this strange puppet technique that turned one into something that didn't seem like a human or ghost.

“No... no!!!”

Puff!

Vibrating true essence sprang forth from Lin Ming's fingertips and ran up the red spear like a viper!

“Nooooo!”

Corpsemancer sent out a final pitiful scream. With a popping sound, the brain burst apart into a thick white liquid like rice porridge.

Corpsemancer had died.

As Grandma White, Rong Lin, and other Life Destruction masters saw this, they suddenly realized what had happened. Before that final strike occurred, Corpsemancer had shifted his brain into the skull of the bat puppet. Then, he had controlled his main body to perish together with Lin Ming.

This was a completely ruthless and insidious move. Once Lin Ming fell for it, he would still be severely wounded even if he didn't die. He absolutely wouldn't be able to fight against the bat puppet Corpsemancer.

But Lin Ming had clearly realized what sort of change had

occurred in those fleeting last moments. He had thus given up his attack on Corpsemancer's main body and switched his target to the bat puppet!

If these were peaceful times and one carefully investigated with their perception, then it wouldn't be difficult to find out just where Corpsemancer's brain had gone. But during that fierce battle just now, in that critical moment, Lin Ming had been able to discover this point! Now that was truly horrifying!

Slowly, all of the martial artists began to understand what had happened. Even those that were confused had the series of events explained to them.

For a time, a pall of silence fell over the entire city. Just who was this youth who had managed to exterminate Corpsemancer?

Some people noticed that Lin Ming was wearing a jet-black armor on his body. There was just a circular gap on the chest area, as if it were missing its heartguard mirror.

It was because of this armor that Lin Ming hadn't been cut in half by the Evil Hate Scythe.

What sort of armor was this that it could block Corpsemancer's final strike?

Hu –

Lin Ming took out a new set of clothes from his spatial ring and tossed it on, immediately covering the Demon Emperor's armor. When Lin Ming had first worn the Demon Emperor's armor he placed some minor camouflage on it because he didn't want to attract others' attention. But, that powerful attack of Corpsemancer just now had completely ruined his careful concealment.

For a short period of time, this armor should attract some people's attention. But Lin Ming didn't worry too much. Tens of thousands of years had already passed; it was impossible for others to recognize the Demon Emperor's armor.

Lin Ming received the broken bat puppet and the other puppets and then dropped down from the skies.

As he landed on the ground, all of the surrounding martial artists quickly scattered away from him in shock. Facing such an evil star, no one dared to remain near him, much less approach him. Even the city guard couldn't dream of controlling him. If anyone died here because of him then they could only blame their bad luck.

Lin Ming ignored the surrounding martial artists and gathered up Corpsemancer's corpse and spatial ring. Then, he sent a sound transmitting talisman to Xiaoxiao and flew towards her. At this time he needed to recuperate from his wounds. In that battle just now he had used every ability he had. Not only did he consume a massive amount of energy but he was also seriously wounded.

“He won... Sir Lin actually won...”

As Xiaoxiao saw Lin Ming fly towards her, her lips faintly shivered. Even she didn't dare to believe that this was real and not a dream.

A Destiny Decree master had actually been killed by Lin Ming! And Lin Ming was only at the late Revolving Core realm.

Xiaoxiao never imagined that the young man she met several days ago could actually kill a Destiny Decree master!

Every character ranked on the Destiny Decree was an earthshaking, all-powerful existence. Even if Heavencraft Pavilion called upon their complete resources they would still find it hard to move such a character to action.

“He really won. Young miss, your father's spirit must be protecting us to have us encounter such an amazing person!” Beside Xiaoxiao, Grandma White began to cry. In these past days, Xiaoxiao had faced an infinite amount of pressure, but so had Grandma White. She had looked after Xiaoxiao as she grew up, and after receiving the grace of her father, she completely regarded Xiaoxiao as her own granddaughter.

When Lin Ming flew in front of Xiaoxiao, her entire face was wet with tears. For a time she was overwhelmed and unable to speak a single word.

“Lin... Sir Lin, I sincerely thank you...”

“I must heal first.”

Lin Ming had no intention of speaking too much and flew directly to Heavencraft Pavilion. The current environment was not safe and he needed to ensure that he was at his peak condition. Otherwise, if he encountered a more powerful enemy he wouldn't even be able to escape.

As the martial artists of Witch Creek City saw Lin Ming fly towards Heavencraft Pavilion with Xiaoxiao and Grandma White in tow, all of them were flabbergasted.

“So it's someone invited by Heavencraft Pavilion.”

“Just who is he? It's impossible for him to be in his twenties. He should be several hundred years old but just looks young.”

A young martial artist muttered out loud. He was a genius of Witch Creek City's younger generation, but compared to Lin Ming he was nothing at all. He simply couldn't accept that they were of similar age.

“Don't be stupid, he isn't even at the Life Destruction realm. Only when a martial artist reaches the Life Destruction realm can they burn some of their cultivation to renew their youth. And this is only appearances – it doesn't lengthen their lifespan. Normally only female martial artists that value their appearance too much would do such things. Men normally wouldn't. After all, rejuvenating your appearance requires you to burn not a small

amount of your cultivation.”

“This is incredible news. He’s so young and yet he killed a Destiny Decree master. The Destiny Decree will change again. Perhaps the four great intelligence networks will release a revised Destiny Decree soon.”

Witch Creek City couldn’t be considered a small city of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, thus they naturally had branches of the intelligence networks here as well as eyes from the various major forces.

The news that Lin Ming had killed Corpsemancer quickly passed through every major intelligence network. And Lin Ming’s name was also inquired – Lin Lanjian.

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At this time, in the front hall of Heavencraft Pavilion the purple-clothed Xiaoxiao knelt down in front of Lin Ming and was deeply bowing with reverential respect. “Sir Lin, I will never forget this gratitude as long as I live!”

Grandma White also bowed. This was no longer just helping Xiaoxiao ascend to the position of Company Head, but had involved saving Xiaoxiao’s very life. As she deeply bowed before Lin Ming, her heart hated Xiaoxiao’s two great uncles to the extreme. She cursed them for their ruthlessness. They had actually gone to look for someone like Corpsemancer – that was the same as kicking Xiaoxiao into the depths hell.

Since they no longer cared for face, she wouldn't keep any more scruples with her. As long as Lin Ming was here, she simply didn't fear a battle to the death.

“Miss Heavencraft, there is no need to bow to me.” Lin Ming waved his hand. “We are just helping each other out according to the previous agreement. Miss Heavencraft must not forget my dragonspine grass either.”

“I will definitely help Sir Lin find it as soon as possible. This is my Heavencraft Pavilion's Snow Ice Divine Pill. It has miraculous healing effects and also has the use of nourishing the meridians and dantian. Sir Lin, please accept it.”

Xiaoxiao extended a pill box with both hands, respectfully presenting it to Lin Ming.

This was a miracle cure controlled by Heavencraft Pavilion. With Xiaoxiao's current authority, she didn't have the authorization to give it away without the approval of the Council of Elders.

But now that the situation had devolved to this level and she had nearly been killed by her two great uncles, Xiaoxiao could no longer care about whatever Council of Elders.

Having Lin Ming restore himself to his peak combat strength was the most important matter at hand.

Lin Ming glanced at the white divine pill within the pill box. Indeed, it contained an incomparably rich heaven and earth origin energy. Even Lin Ming, who had seen a great number of miracle medicines in his time, also felt his heart stir.

He didn't decline. He directly received the box and then entered his training chambers to restore himself.

The battle with Corpsemancer had been strenuous and exacting on Lin Ming. However, he had gained a number of insights during it and needed to seize this chance to digest them.

As everyone expected, in just a mere three days after Lin Ming and Corpsemancer's battle, a new Destiny Decree was issued forth.

Every three years, the four great intelligence networks would collect all new information on every Life Destruction powerhouse's cultivation, progress, and recent battles. They would then use all this information to speculate on their current approximate strength. This was when a new Destiny Decree would be released. Generally, there would be far-reaching changes every time.

Between the two issues of the Destiny Decree, if there was a fight between Destiny Decree powerhouses or a Destiny Decree powerhouse was killed, leading to a clear change in ranks, then a new revised edition of the Destiny Decree would be released.

And this time, the revision of the Destiny Decree was because of Lin Ming.

Chapter 783 – First Appearance On The Destiny Decree

There were a total of 360 Life Destruction powerhouses ranked on the Destiny Decree. Those that could make the list on the Density Decree all had a certain degree of hope that they would one day reach the Divine Sea. Thus, most of those on the Destiny Decree were devoted cultivators and spent the majority of their life closed up in seclusion, rarely seen in public.

Many major forces hoped to win over a few Destiny Decree masters to act as foreign patrons that could assist them. However, besides a few top national level forces, even the countless organizations as wealthy as the Heavencraft Trading Company could not ever hope to win over one.

Each Divine Kingdom only had a few dozen Destiny Decree powerhouses at their disposal. Moreover, for someone at their boundary, their main pursuit in life had become breaking through to the Divine Sea realm. Besides training and seeking out lucky breaks, they simply didn't care for dueling others. As for the struggles of wealth and power in the world, those were even more boring and worthless in their eyes.

The only reason some Destiny Decree powerhouses were even willing to join top national influences was because of the vast amounts of resources that these organizations could provide.

Because of how influential the Destiny Decree was, every major player in the world paid close attention to this list. Through this list, they could understand an approximate situation of the

powerhouses in the Four Divine Kingdoms, and at least understand the strength they showed to the public.

The entire Destiny Decree was written in paper and then bound into a book. Every Life Destruction powerhouse occupied their own page, and thus every single issue of the Destiny Decree had 360 pages; no more, no less.

Within these 360 pages, some characters that were currently attracting attention would be written in the Decree using red ink.

At this time, the one who was written down in red ink was Lin Ming.

The 320th page had a name that was written down with large, blood red characters.

Lin Lanjian.

The back of that page introduced a variety of information, including Lin Ming's fighting style; his moves, weapons, and current accomplishments.

“Lin Lanjian: Weapon – Spear. Killed the ranked 330th ranked Destiny Decree master, Corpsemancer. Cultivation at the late Revolving Core realm. An eternally rare talent.”

The Destiny Decree was generous with its praise. This ranking list had already existed for several thousand years, and there had

been far too many geniuses recorded in its pages. Many of them had even gone on to become Peerless Emperors. However, to enter the Destiny Decree at just the Revolving Core realm, Lin Ming was actually the first person to accomplish this in all these millennia.

Just this point alone was enough to stir up a storm.

A massive number of Witch Creek City's martial artists rushed over to Heavencraft Trading Company for a visit. For a time, the entire Heavencraft Trading Company was packed to the brim with business.

Many of them wished to inquire about the news, and to also meet Lin Ming. There were also some representatives from major forces that wished to win over Lin Ming. If even this was impossible, then testing the waters didn't do any harm.

In turn, this caused the recently struggling Heavencraft Trading Company to be booming with business. This was truly a serendipitous accident. At this time, Xiaoxiao no longer needed to accept the ruling of the family, and had more or less won the struggle for the position of Family Head in advance.

At this time within the Heavencraft Family, Xiaoxiao's two great uncles were looking at the scarlet letters emblazoned on the Destiny Decree. It was as if the letters had been written in fresh, glistening red blood.

Corpsemancer had died!

Furthermore, he had been killed by Lin Ming!

“How could this be...” Heavencraft Xiao muttered to himself, unable to believe that this was true.

“Big Brother, what do we do?” The sudden change in the current situation had rendered Heavencraft Yun listless. He would have absolutely never imagined that the random, young boy that Xiaoxiao drew in from somewhere had actually managed to kill the Destiny Decree ranked Corpsemancer.

“What can we do!?” Heavencraft Xiao harshly exhaled in a panic. However, he was also at a loss at the time. Paper could not wrap up fire; the truth would eventually come out. They couldn’t depend on finding asylum in their family by arguing they had nothing to do with Corpsemancer.

They were in the wrong to begin with to involve that Corpsemancer. If Xiaoxiao had been killed then everything would have been fine. However, now that Corpsemancer had died, this would cause all the anger to be directed at them. Since Xiaoxiao also now had Lin Ming’s support, she was in an invincible position. It would be impossible to find another Destiny Decree master that could contend with Lin Ming in a short period of time.

As for the Crown Prince, Heavencraft Xiao had no expectations that he would help. The Heavencraft Trading Company was only a potential boost to the Crown Prince, and now that things had come to this, the result was already foreseeable. There was no way that the Nine Furnace Crown Prince would be willing to link himself with some dastardly villain like Corpsemancer.

“We can only take advantage of this time while Lin Lanjian is recuperating from his injuries to immediately leave through the secret transmission array to look for that sir. The changes within the Heavencraft Trading Company have already gone beyond our control; there is nowhere else we can go.” Heavencraft Xiao painfully sighed. He no longer had any other choice.

Once they made this decision, the two of them fled from the Heavencraft Family under the cover of night. In a family like the Heavencraft Family, they naturally had a special transmission array specifically used for escaping. If they left through this transmission array they wouldn't need to be afraid that Lin Ming would chase them down and kill them.

They no longer entertained the hopes of becoming the Heavencraft Family Head.

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At this time, at the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Phoenix City, a young man wearing a five-clawed dragon royal robe was flipping through the new issue of the Destiny Decree, a thoughtful expression on his face.

“Crown Prince!” A man wearing a green mask appeared in the great hall, respectfully bowing to the young man.

This young man was the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Crown Prince. He was in his forties, but appeared as if he were in his

twenties. This wasn't because he consumed a part of his cultivation to restore his youthful appearance, but because he had stepped into Life Destruction at a mere 30 years of age. After his physical body had been transformed and reborn, his appearance maintained the look of himself in his twenties, something that wouldn't change for thousands of years to come.

Even men were pretty willing to maintain their youthful looks for as long as possible. However, if they were stranded in the Revolving Core realm until their thirties and forties, there would still be a few traces of their age left on their faces, giving off the feel that they were middle-aged in appearance.

If one wanted to keep the vivid vibrancy of youth, one would have to step into the Life Destruction realm at around 30 years of age. However, this sort of person would be a monstrous genius of their era. Without accident, they would inevitably step into the Divine Sea, and would even grow to become an astounding character amongst all Divine Sea powerhouses.

“Fleeting Dragon, what’s the matter?” The Nine Furnace Crown Prince quietly said as he closed the Destiny Decree.

“Reporting to Your Highness, the two chess pieces that your subordinate has arranged in the Heavencraft Family have arrived at the Royal Palace overnight. They wish to seek an audience with the Crown Prince. Does Your Highness wish to grant them a meeting?”

To the green masked man, Heavencraft Xiao and Heavencraft Yun were both unimportant characters that didn't have the

qualifications to seek an audience with the Crown Prince. It was only the fact that Lin Lanjian had killed Corpsemancer that would pique the Crown Prince's interest, and then submit this report.

Indeed, the Nine Furnace Crown Prince nodded and said, "Let them see me. In addition, Fleeting Dragon, I had you investigate the three great trading companies, the two great banks, and the Hundred Treasure Auction House. How have you done so far?"

"Reporting to Your Highness, the Nine Furnace Guard is currently secretly investigating these groups. There aren't any major omissions with the two great banks and the Hundred Treasure Auction House, but the three great trading companies all have a few existing problems."

"Oh? What about the Heavencraft Trading Company?" The Nine Furnace Crown Prince nodded with satisfaction, a smile touching his face.

"We've already obtained precise evidence on the Heavencraft Trading Company. The Heavencraft Trading Company's previous head and the one before him had all made transactions in violation of the Divine Kingdom's laws. There were even some secret transactions done with the Asura Divine Kingdom that we can use to charge them with colluding with an enemy power!"

The green masked man indifferently said. He was the chief commander of the Nine Furnace Guard.

The so-called Nine Furnace Guard was a military faction under

the direct control of the Divine Kingdom. They governed the nation's prisons and held great power in all other aspects.

Their power and influence were terrifying, and they even had five Destiny Decree masters in their ranks. This green masked man was one of them, and also the strongest amongst them. His code name was Fleeting Dragon.

All of the members of the Nine Furnace Guard wore embroidered robes and green masks. These masks were not for decoration, and were actually tools carved from wood spirit jade. Wood spirit jade had the special characteristic of isolating all external perception. Even a Divine Sea powerhouse could not pierce his perception even half of an inch into the wood spirit jade. Thus, as long as they wore these masks, then no one would ever be able to see the true expression of the Nine Furnace Guard martial artists.

The entire Nine Furnace Guard had a total of 9000 individuals, and their combat strength was just as fearful. They were under the direct jurisdiction of the Nine Furnace Crown Prince and could be considered as his right hand.

“Excellent. Organize all the evidence as soon as possible and bring it to me.” The Nine Furnace Crown Prince said with a smile. Although this was a secret investigation, the truth was that the investigation had already been carried out for an entire two years thus far.

As Fleeting Dragon heard this, he was secretly startled. He didn't know just what the Crown Prince was plotting, but the three great trading companies, the two great banks, and the Hundred Treasure

Auction House summed up to be a total of six major commercial organizations. They grasped nearly 10% of the entire Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's economy.

Was the Crown Prince really preparing to swallow them all up?

It had to be known that, for a trading company to develop to such a massive scale, it was impossible for them to wipe their asses clean of all the dirty deeds they committed. As long as one had the mind and resources to search, they absolutely could find some problems. In fact, this was a matter that everyone was aware of.

Even so, all of the previous Divine Emperors of the four Divine Kingdoms tacitly consented to the existence of the economic oligarchy, because they could help manage the country and create wealth for all. Moreover, over one-third of their profits were collected into the Divine Kingdom's treasury.

If one wished to annex these economic organizations then it would be possible with the absolute suppressive strength of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's state power. If one didn't care for public opinion, then this was a simple matter. But, this had already been tested by another Divine Kingdom once, and the truth had proved differently. After the great economic organizations were also taken under national country, it was easy for corruption to grow in management. This then led to a decline in efficiency and profit, eventually leading these organizations to close down in several years. This was simply not a wise move.

The state machine was mostly able to grasp spirit essence stone mines, wood spirit jade sites, and other similarly simple resource-

based industries. It was difficult to become involved in anything else.

If a normal Prince were to have these sort of thoughts then Fleeting Dragon would have thought that he had delusions of grandeur and had become completely incompetent.

But now, the one making this decision was the Nine Furnace Crown Prince. Fleeting Dragon was well aware of just how great the Nine Furnace Crown prince's hidden strength was; he certainly wasn't an idiot that would make such an addled decision. Then, just what was he planning on doing? Was he really preparing to annex these six great economic organizations? That would definitely cause some level of turmoil in the Divine Kingdom.

Fleeting Dragon imagined all these things but he didn't question his orders. As the chief commander of the Nine Furnace Guard, his only duty was to obey orders.

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Three days later, Heavencraft Trading Company –

“Mm? An invitation to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Divine Palace?”

At the Heavencraft Trading Company, Lin Ming had received a jade slip made from wood spirit jade. It was marked with an invitation to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Royal Palace.

Additionally, the one who sent this invitation was surprisingly the Nine Furnace Crown Prince!”

“The Nine Furnace Crown Prince wishes for me to come to the Divine Palace as a guest and also bring Heavencraft Xiaoxiao?” Lin Ming frowned as he repeated the message on the jade slip.

Chapter 784 – The Crown Prince's Invitation

In the past few days, Lin Ming had come to understand what sort of person the Nine Furnace Crown Prince was.

His name was Yang Yun, and his martial talent was extraordinary. It seemed as if he had come across an immense fortuitous encounter when he was young, and had now broken through to Life Destruction at a mere 30 years of age.

Yang Yun was a character that wielded alarming power throughout the entire Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. He wasn't on a level that the likes of Li Yifeng could even compare to.

Although Li Yifeng was a Prince, there was a vast difference in their respective influence. Putting aside the disparity between the Seven Star Divine Kingdom's strength and the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's strength, just Yang Yun and Li Yifeng's respective status in their Divine Kingdoms alone was incomparable.

Li Yifeng could at best be considered a playboy, and had a natural disposition towards laziness and fun. His finances were all controlled, and he had even been punished with confinement before.

As for the Nine Furnace Crown Prince, he had at least five subordinates that were all Destiny Decree masters, and he himself was also ranked on the Destiny Decree. It was just that his ranking had been omitted from the Decree, and there hadn't been any

information dispatched about him for many years. The depths of his strength were a complete mystery to all.

Compared to Yang Yun, Li Yifeng was just a little baby that hadn't grown up.

It was impossible for Lin Ming to be at ease when facing such a character. Yang Yun was nearly twice his age, and even the power of his subordinates wasn't something Lin Ming could ever hope to contend with.

For the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, Yang Yun represented the peak of strength outside of the Divine Sea powerhouses.

Despite the fact that Yang Yun had no enmity or grudge with Lin Ming, and that he shouldn't even have a reason to harm Lin Ming to begin with, Lin Ming didn't want to enter a place like the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. That could truly be described as a dragon's lake or a tiger's cave; a truly dangerous zone!

Most of the Destiny Decree masters of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom were subordinates of the Divine Kingdom. After all, the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was not just a nation, but a quasi sixth-grade super Holy Land!

The Divine Kingdom's three great Imperial Scholars, twelve Great Officials, and five Nine Furnace Guard Captains were all Destiny Decree ranked characters, and were also ranked extremely high on the Decree.

In addition to that, the Divine Kingdom had Emperor Uncles and High Princes that had lived for several thousand years and had gone into seclusion. These people were even more terrifying!

They had most likely entered into the Divine Sea. In a sense, the current Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom could compare with the Demon God Imperial Palace to a small degree. The Demon God Imperial Palace had once been a great sect that ruled the world, the most terrifying power in the entire Sky Spill Continent!

In front of these people, Lin Ming simply didn't have any strength to resist. Once he entered the Divine Palace, he would be at their disposal.

Directly refusing Yang Yun wasn't a good idea either, however, as it might anger him. This way, Lin Ming could only sidestep this invitation by saying he still hadn't recovered from his wounds after his fight with Corpsemancer, and needed more time to recuperate.

This was a tactful method of rejection.

After Lin Ming passed out the message, he continued to train and practice alchemy.

Just yesterday, Xiaoxiao had delivered the dragonspine grass that she had promised, and two tufts of them at that.

She had also delivered a considerable amount of spirit essence

stone and wood spirit jade to him.

This wasn't all Xiaoxiao's doing, but also the gifts that the Heavencraft Trading Company saved up to win over Lin Ming.

Within the entire Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, including the three great trading companies, two great banks, and Hundred Treasure Auction House, the only business giant that had a Destiny Decree Master serving them was the Hundred Treasure Auction House.

This guest had also only lent his name, and wouldn't act unless there was a great event occurring.

While this Destiny Decree master was ranked somewhere similar to Lin Ming, he was already over 1500 years old. He was far from comparing to Lin Ming's potential.

If the Heavencraft Trading Company could be on good terms with Lin Ming, then the future returns would be inestimable.

Who knew what the future held? Perhaps Lin Ming might even break through to the Divine Sea realm. The Divine Sea realm! A Supreme Elder that could awe even an entire Divine Kingdom!

The top 100 ranked masters of the Destiny Decree were already characters that people couldn't even look up to. Then, what sort of existence would a Divine Sea Supreme Elder be?

Even the Elders of the Heavencraft Trading Company were unable to imagine this.

If they could be on good terms, or even merely know of a Divine Sea Supreme Elder, that would make their family's status skyrocket. The Heavencraft Trading Company was a great power that didn't lack wealth; what they lacked was strength to take matters into their own hands. Underneath the absolute suppression of the Divine Kingdom, they were no different from defenseless pigs that were being raised up. They could be taken out of their pens and slaughtered at any time.

Now, because Xiaoxiao was on good terms with Lin Ming, her status in the family had advanced by leaps and bounds. With her two great uncles escaping from the family under the cover of night using the transmission array, there was no longer anyone that was able to threaten her position as Family head. The Council of Elders had already passed a resolution, and after another two months, an auspicious day would be chosen. Heavencraft Xiaoxiao would then complete the grand ceremony of family succession.

Recently, Lin Ming's alchemical skills had also been constantly increasing. If he wished to refine the Fivefade Void Pill to open the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates, though, he was still far from being able to do so.

Lin Ming looked at the Cosmic Melting Furnace alchemy materials that were floating in front of him. There was the Five Color Fruit, Void Tempered Root, dragonspine grass, skyflower stones, as well as three jins of 200,000 year old wood spirit jade.

“This wood spirit jade quality is a bit too poor. If I had million year wood spirit jade, then my chances at success would be much higher. Unfortunately, wood spirit jade that old is just too rare; even the Heavencraft Trading Company would have difficulty finding it.”

As Lin Ming was murmuring to himself, he suddenly felt a cold air rise up inside his chamber.

Killing intent?

Lin Ming’s mind went cold. His training chamber had protective array formations surrounding it. If one didn’t destroy the array formations, and only had their killing intent seep in, then that proved that this person’s killing intent was unimaginably condensed.

Lin Ming quickly put away the Cosmic Melting Furnace and opened the protective array formation, exiting the training chamber. As he stepped outside, he saw that just 200 feet away from him stood a passive, green masked man, whose ice cold mask gave off a heartlessly indifferent feeling.

“A wood spirit jade carved mask?”

Lin Ming’s mind stirred. With his understanding of wood spirit jade he immediately understood the use of this mask.

Wood spirit jade was able to isolate away all external perception.

Because of this, a mask made of wood spirit jade was the most effective and simple method to hide one's own appearance. Even if a Divine Sea Supreme Elder stood here, they still wouldn't be able to identify who this person was. As for normal appearance changing techniques, they could only fool with people similar cultivations. Anyone with sharp enough eyes of high enough cultivation would instantly see through that type of disguise.

"I could borrow this method later." If Lin Ming hadn't seen this man in front of him, then he would never have thought wood spirit jade would also have this sort of function.

"You are...." As Lin Ming looked at this green masked man's cultivation, he didn't know just what sort of arcane ability this man practiced. Since his dantian had also been hidden in a deep fog; it was impossible to see through his cultivation.

But, just from the aura that emitted from his body, Lin Ming could feel his own heart reacting by beating faster. Without a doubt, this person was a master among masters.

He had come to Heavencraft Pavilion, but hadn't disturbed the guards. That killing intent he released just now also didn't have any malice behind it; this man had simply used this method to inform Lin Ming of his arrival.

Thus, Lin Ming was able to approximately guess just what sort of status this man had.

"I am the Nine Furnace Guard's Chief Commander. You may

refer to me as Fleeting Dragon.”

The Nine Furnace Guard Chief Commander was under the direct control of the Crown Prince. Lin Ming wasn't surprised at all.

“When his Highness the Crown Prince invited Sir Lin for an audience, Sir Lin hadn't yet recovered. Now, a month has passed and his Highness the Crown Prince has specifically sent me here to inquire into Sir Lin's state and also send a miraculous healing pill. If Sir Lin's wound is cured, then please follow me back for a visit to the Nine Furnace Divine Palace. If Sir Lin still isn't feeling too well then I shall wait at Heavencraft Pavilion until Sir Lin's wounds are healed.

As the Nine Furnace Guard Chief Command said these words, Lin Ming no longer had any reasonable argument he could use to refuse. He could only reluctantly agree.

He didn't wish to involve himself in the high level battles of the four Divine Kingdoms. However, just seeing the Crown Prince might not be too bad either. For instance, the million year wood spirit jade he needed may be very difficult for the Heavencraft Trading Company to find; however, the Nine Furnace Divine Palace should definitely have it or find it.

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The Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was divided into nine provinces. The Nine Furnace Divine Palace was located at the largest and busiest province – the Central Province.

The area of just the Central Province was larger than ten South Horizon Regions combined.

Around the Central Province, the other eight provinces surrounded it. As for the back of the Central Province, that area extended to the edge of the Sea of Miracles.

The Sea of Miracles was the greatest life forbidden zone of the entire Sky Spill Continent. The four Divine Kingdoms surrounded the Sea of Miracles in a giant circle. And, far behind these four Divine Kingdoms was the South Sea, Fog Sea, North Sea, and Crimson Sea. At the very center of everything was the Sea of Miracles. This made the Sky Spill Continent to look like the shape of an irregular donut.

The Sea of Miracles was also known as the Sea of No Return, and also the Ocean of Endless Storms. It was rumored that the entire sea was pitch black and covered with infinite lightning storms. To enter was to walk into certain death. Even a Divine Sea Supreme Elder was no exception.

As for the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's Divine Palace, that was only 10,000 miles from the shores of the Sea of Miracles.

As Lin Ming arrived at the foot of the Nine Furnace Divine Palace, he looked up to see a 100,000 foot high snow-capped mountain range. The Nine Furnace Divine Palace was actually established above these mountains.

This wasn't strange at all, as most sects were built above mountains or spiritual islands. This was because these types of places often had extremely high quality spirit veins.

The Nine Furnace Divine Palace was also the same.

Just by arriving at the base of the mountains, Lin Ming could feel a rich heaven and origin energy rushing over him like a never ending tide, submerging him within. With every breath he took, he could feel all traces of this energy seep into his own dantian, subtly raising his cultivation.

If just standing at the base of these mountains had such an effect, then the origin energy density at the summit could be imagined.

This was also the reason that so many Destiny Decree masters were willing to join the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. If they could close up and train in the Nine Furnace Divine Palace, then that would be far better than any other place they could go to.

“These are sixth grade spirit veins, or maybe even higher...”

Lin Ming had never seen a higher spirit vein before, and was thus unable to estimate the level of this land's spirit veins.

Beside Lin Ming, even the normally silent Fleeting Dragon revealed a trace of pride in his eyes as he saw the Nine Furnace Divine Palace.

He said, “This mountain is named the Nine Furnace Divine Mountain and the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom’s name originates from this mountain. The founding ancestor of the Nine Furnace Sect established his sect on the Nine Furnace Divine Mountain. As it grew from there, it finally becoming the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. The Nine Furnace Divine Mountain came first, and the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom followed after.

“Sir Lin, Miss Heavencraft, please follow me up the mountain!”

When the Crown Prince invited Lin Ming, he had also conveniently invited Xiaoxiao. This caused Xiaoxiao to be terrified. Just what sort of legendary existence was the Nine Furnace Crown prince? She had no idea why someone like the Crown Prince would invite her. Was it just to accompany Lin Lanjian here?

Chapter 785 – Let Me See Your Armor

The Nine Furnace Divine Mountain reached 100,000 feet high. The summit was covered in pure white snow all year round. Within the endless expanse of snow and the deep blue glaciers, countless towers of jade soared high up into the skies. Every tower was supported by array formations. Ancient snow fell outside, but within the tower, under the effect of these formations, rare flowers from all seasons blossomed in all their splendor, full of life and vitality. It was truly a sight to behold.

While one side was covered in endless snow and ice, the other side was filled with lush green spiritual plants. Such a sharp and clear contrast was like a heavenly paradise on earth.

At the summit of the Nine Furnace Divine Mountain there was a beautiful lake that displayed all four seasons. This lake was named the Nine Flower Lake. This entire lake was covered in a dense fog, and at its center was a pavilion carved from jade.

Within this pavilion was a young man that was lightly playing a zither. The zither's melody that thrummed in the air was pleasant to the ears. In the Nine Flower Lake, snow lotuses bloomed all around. As this jade-like handsome young man played his zither, he appeared even purer and loftier than a woman, as if he were an immortal that had descended down from the heavens.

As the young man saw Lin Ming and Xiaoxiao arrive, he faintly smiled, "Brother Lin, welcome to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom as my honored guest."

The young man's voice had a strangely pleasant lilt to it; it made one feel very comfortable listening to him.

“Is he the Nine Furnace Crown Prince?”

The Divine Kingdom Crown Prince in front of him was completely different from what he had imagined.

“Lin Lanjian greets his Highness the Crown Prince.”

Lin Ming simply cupped his hands across his chest. As someone who wasn't from the Divine Kingdom, there was no need for him to be overly courteous.

“Brother Lin is too polite.” Yang Yun similarly cupped his hands across his chest. This was a ritual exchange from those of the same generation; there was no hint of the status of the Nine Furnace Crown Prince behind it. “Fleeting Dragon, guide Brother Lin to the reception hall. I shall head there soon after.”

“Yes,” Fleeting Dragon respectfully said. Lin Ming could feel from this respect that the Nine Furnace Crown Prince was an extraordinary character. Otherwise it would be impossible to sincerely convince a master like Fleeting Dragon.

The Nine Furnace Crown Prince's dantian was also covered in a thick fog; it was impossible to see his cultivation.

“I heard that Yang Yun crossed into Life Destruction at just 30

years of age. Ten years have passed now. I wonder what stage of Life Destruction he has reached now...”

Lin Ming didn't doubt that Yang Yun could even jump ranks to fight. If so, then his strength was terrifying.

After arriving at the reception hall, Yang Yun arrived in just half an incense stick of time. At this time, he had changed his clothes and was now wearing a purple gold robe as well as a purple gold crown. The robe he wore was embroidered with the image of a five-clawed golden dragon. Whether consciously or unconsciously, he emitted a noble air around him that made others want to fall to their knees and worship him.

This sort of aura that made one wish to bow before him was called the legendary Breath of the King. This so-called Breath of the King was similar to a force field, the only difference being that it was far weaker in intensity. To a martial artist on the level of Lin Ming, this sort of aura had absolutely no use. But Xiaoxiao was different. She felt a great pressure just from standing in front of Yang Yun.

That previously jade-like handsome, ethereal Yang Yun had now overlapped with the current Yang Yun that released the Breath of the King. It was impossible to distinguish just which one was the real Yang Yun.

Yang Yun realized that Xiaoxiao's complexion had paled. He gently smiled at her and then purposefully restrained his energy. Xiaoxiao immediately felt the pressure on her lighten and her face flushed red again.

“I apologize Miss Heavencraft. Cuicui, please brew a pot of jade tea for Miss Heavencraft.”

The last few words were spoken to a palace maid. Xiaoxiao gratefully smiled, flattered that someone like Yang Yun would care about such an unimportant person as her. As for the jade tea, as the Young Mistress of the Heavencraft Trading Company, Xiaoxiao was well aware of just what that was. That was an extremely precious Yin-attribute tea. It was said that if a mortal woman drank a cup of it she would become one year younger, and if she drank an entire pot she would become ten years younger.

This was no exaggeration. Only after stepping on the path of cultivation would one's life potential develop. Hence, as a mortal, it was relatively easier to extend their life..

But for a martial artist, especially Life Destruction martial artists, because they had trained themselves to the limit, they had to completely unearth all of their life's potential. Thus, wanting to extend their life was far too difficult.

The maid named Cuicui respectfully served tea to everyone. Her appearance was exquisite and with her young age she still had a Xiantian realm cultivation. For such a heavenly gifted girl to be a palace maid, this was obviously proof of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's legacy.

She poured the jade tea in Xiaoxiao tea cup and also served ice lotus tea to Lin Ming and the Nine Furnace Crown Prince. This sort

of tea was even more precious than jade tea. It was produced from the dried petals of the ice lotuses that grew around the Nine Flower Lake. As for the ice lotuses of the Nine Flower Lake, they could be called heavenly treasures.

The Nine Furnace Crown Prince smiled and said, “Brother Lin is truly an astounding person. You are just over 20 years of age and yet you’ve managed to step into the pages of the Destiny Decree with just a late Revolving Core cultivation. When I was Brother Lin’s age, the difference was simply far too great!”

The Nine Furnace Crown Prince ruefully smiled. Lin Ming didn’t respond, only waiting for the Nine Furnace Crown Prince to state his intention for inviting him over here.

However, the Nine Furnace Crown Prince had no intention of doing so. Instead, he and Lin Ming talked about the customs and policies of the four Divine Kingdoms, as well as relating to him the various large sects and influences, and all sorts of other strange information.

Yang Yun was an eloquent individual and extremely well spoken. His manner of speaking was charming and light, make him very comfortable and disarming to talk too. Even Xiaoxiao couldn’t help but have a favorable impression of him.

Finally, after an hour of conversation had passed, Lin Ming asked, “May I ask why Your Highness has requested my presence here?”

“Haha, Brother Lin need not worry, I merely like to befriend the heroes of this world. Also, Brother Lin, there’s no need to be so polite. Please, call me Yang Yun.”

Yang Yun’s words were well said and Lin Ming didn’t speak further. The truth was that he knew that the so-called ‘befriending heroes of this world’ and winning over the will of people all meant that he was recruiting others for his own purposes. Yang Yun’s cleverness lay in the fact that he didn’t directly mention this matter. Instead, he first wanted to be friends with Lin Ming. Friends first, leader after. Otherwise, it would be too easy to be turned at the start.

Even though Lin Ming had guessed Yang Yun’s true intentions, he still didn’t refuse him.

“Brother Yang’s skill in fine arts and military expertise is renowned throughout the world. In the future, you’ll likely become an unrivalled Divine Emperor. For Brother Yang to value me so highly is truly flattering.”

“Haha, Brother Lin is too modest. I wonder which force Brother Lin originated from? With Brother Lin’s talent I fear you’ll become the top powerhouse of the Sky Spill Continent in the future. When that time comes, I might need to rely on Brother Lin.”

The two young men complimented each other. Lin Ming smiled, not responding to Yang Yun’s inquiry of his background. In response, Yang Yun tactfully didn’t ask again. “Brother Lin, I happened to have invited some astounding young elites from the Sky Spill Continent here today for a banquet at the Nine Flower

Lake. Would Brother Lin like to join me to the lake and share in some wine whilst meeting the heroes of this world?”

To be considered an astounding young elite by Yang Yun, they must have the most extraordinary prides of heaven within the entire Sky Spill Continent. Not only would their strength and talent be extraordinary, but they should also be greatly influential. For instance, the successor of a great sect or perhaps an extremely powerful Divine Kingdom Prince.

Lin Ming hadn't replied yet when a maid came in to report on some news. “Your Highness, the White Clan Princess has arrived.”

“Oh? Then I shall immediately go to receive her. Brother Lin, how about going with me?”

“Mm, alright.” Lin Ming nodded.

Yang Yun had indeed invited heroic young elites that stood at the very peak of the Sky Spill Continent. These people all ranged from their twenties to their fifties.

For the Xiantian realm, someone 50 years old would be considered middle-aged. But if one could step into the Life Destruction realm in their thirties, then they would appear in their twenties even if they were 50 years of age. In addition, Life Destruction powerhouses lived for thousands of years. Thus, a 50 year old Life Destruction powerhouse could also be considered someone of the younger generation.

The White Clan Princess, the Great Smelting Kingdom Prince, and the Seven Star High Prince Successor, each of them were eminent characters.

For instance, that White Clan Princess. The so-called White Clan was a family clan that lived at the borders of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom in a hidden world. This Family Clan had a very special bloodline; they had a bloodline seal. A bloodline seal was a special ability inherited through the bloodline of that family clan. This sort of ability could only be inherited by direct descendants.

Two thousand years ago, a Divine Sea Supreme Elder was born in the White Clan, thus they became worthy of being a true Holy Land level power. And now, their current Family Head also had a high chance of breaking through to the Divine Sea. At that time, their White Clan would have two Supreme Elders backing them. Although that was far from being able to match with the four Divine Kingdoms, it was still a focal super power. The White Clan Princess was the future successor to the Family Head. Thus, her prominent status could be imagined.

There was not much to say of the Great Smelting Kingdom Prince. He had already earned a similar reputation to the Nine Furnace Crown Prince a long time ago. Within the Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom, the title of Crown Prince was an empty position. Currently, there were several powerful competitors vying for this seat, and this Great Smelting Prince was one of them. He was currently 45 years old and also ranked on the Destiny Decree. Although the combined power of his subordinates was weaker than Yang Yun, he was still extremely terrifying.

As for the Seven Prince High Prince Successor, his status was a bit poorer. However, his grandfather was ranked in the top two Divine Sea powerhouses of the entire Seven Star Divine Kingdom. That grandfather's status was absolutely terrifying. If other Divine Sea Supreme Elders ran into him, even they had to greet him as if they were a junior.

This group of people consisted of some of the most illustrious characters of the Sky Spill Continent, princes amongst princes.

Because Xiaoxiao accompanied Lin Ming, she also followed him to this banquet. As she faced this crowd of young people that stood at the very peak of the Sky Spill Continent, even she, who she felt was worldly and had seen the 'great world', felt breathless.

Compared to these people in front of her, everyone she had ever come into contact with was nothing at all.

As the host, Yang Yun introduced everyone one at a time.

As every person was introduced, Xiaoxiao would be increasingly shocked every time. But as for Lin Ming, he remembered their appearance and background as well as silently estimating their strength. In the four Divine Kingdoms, it was inevitable that he would encounter these individuals in the future.

As Lin Ming was introduced, Yang Yun only used a few simple words to describe him, "The only Revolving Core talent to enter the Destiny Decree in a thousand years – Lin Lanjian."

“Mm? He is Lin Lanjian!?” The Great Smelting Prince looked at Lin Ming, a bit astonished. He had also been wondering who Lin Ming was and why he was standing here. Now that the Great Smelting Prince knew that he was Lin Lanjian, even with his high and prominent status, he still held a deep respect in his heart when facing this sort of top talent that couldn’t be judged by common sense.

“You are Lin Lanjian?” In the pavilion, a black-clothed youth stood up. He was an Asura Divine Kingdom Prince.

“I am.” Lin Ming cupped his hands across his chest. He was a bit puzzled as he felt this black-clothed youth’s blazing eyes locked onto him. Just what problem did this fellow have with him? Was it related to Corpsemancer?

Or was this fellow one of those battle crazies that challenged every powerhouse they saw and now wanted to fight him?

However, Lin Ming never imagined that this black-clothed youth would suddenly step forward and point at Lin Ming’s clothes. “Lin Lanjian, I want to take a look at the armor you’re wearing. How about it?”

“Mm?” Lin Ming frowned. Randomly asking to view another’s treasure was extremely rude.

He didn’t expect the following explanation either. “Lin Lanjian, I suspect that your armor is the sacred relic of my clan, the Demon Emperor’s armor!”

Chapter 786 – Domineering

“What?”

The Asura Prince’s few words shocked all of the martial artists present. These sorts of words were equal to accusing Lin Ming of stealing away their Asura Clan’s Demon Emperor Armor.

All of the heroic young elites present had heard more or less of Lin Ming’s armor. When Lin Ming and Corpsemancer fought, at the moment that both of them attacked each other in a suicidal manner, Lin Ming had relied on this black armor to block Corpsemancer’s final strike.

Otherwise, this eternal top talent might have perished that day.

According to this Asura Prince, that Demon Emperor Armor originally belonged to the Asura Divine Kingdom.

Everyone’s eyes turned to Lin Ming.

Lin Ming’s eyes became ice cold. The Demon Emperor Armor was a treasure he had personally taken out from the Cosmic Melting Furnace, yet this black-clothed youth in front of him was actually claiming that it was a sacred relic lost by his Asura Divine Kingdom and wanted to take it back. How could Lin Ming not be angered by such an overbearingly false charge?

“You say that my armor belongs to your Asura Divine Kingdom?”

What evidence do you have?” Lin Ming slowly stood up, a faint chill in his voice.

In fact, Lin Ming already thought that there was some connection between the Asura Divine Kingdom and the Holy Demon Continent. The Asura Divine Kingdom cultivated the demonic path, and Corpsemancer also had a Giant Demon Puppet that had come from the Asura Divine Kingdom. From this alone it could be seen that the Asura Divine Kingdom must have members of the Giant Demon race that came from the Holy Demon Continent.

The black-clothed youth jeered at Lin Ming with disdain, “Evidence? Humph! Do you think that as a noble Asura Divine Kingdom Prince, I would actually lay a false charge against you? Even the common mortals know that the first great Demon Emperor is my Asura Divine Kingdom’s faith and first generation Sovereign King. As for that black armor you’re wearing, it was forged by the Demon Emperor himself!

“That’s it? That’s your evidence?” Lin Ming’s lips curved up in a mocking smile, “The Demon Emperor is your Asura Divine Kingdom’s first Sovereign King?”

From his memories, Lin Ming knew that the sect the Demon Emperor had established in the Sky Spill Continent was the South Sea’s Demon God Imperial Palace. But the Demon God Imperial Palace was destroyed after and the Demon Emperor ascended into the Realm of the Gods. He had simply never established any sort of Asura Divine Kingdom.

And the most vital point was that the Demon Emperor existed 70,000-80,000 years ago. How could he possibly be the Asura Divine Kingdom's first Sovereign King?

As the Asura Prince saw Lin Ming's taunting smile, he grew angry, "Who do you think you are? Do you dare to ridicule my Asura Divine Kingdom!?"

As he spoke, the Asura Prince released a thick killing intent. The temperature throughout the entire pavilion lowered until a cold wind blew throughout.

Lin Ming remained unmoved. There were indeed several people that alarmed him here, especially that Nine Furnace Crown Prince, Yang Yun. It could be said that he was unfathomable.

But the Asura Prince wasn't included in that group. This Asura Prince was only around 30 years old; he was simply nothing at all. "How many years of history does your Asura Divine Kingdom have? Do you know how long ago it was that the Demon Emperor existed?"

Hearing Lin Ming's question, the Asura Prince's face flashed with pride and disdain. Although he was staring at Lin Ming, he didn't even see him at all as if he were nothing but air. "The Demon Emperor is a character that lived 70,000 years ago. My Asura Divine Kingdom was officially founded only 12,000 years ago, but before that my Asura Divine Kingdom was actually a hidden sect for 70,000 years! We are the most ancient sect within the entire Sky Spill Continent, bar none!"

As the Asura Prince uttered these words, Yang Yun appeared very calm without a trace of an expression at all. But the Great Smelting Prince frowned, obviously not willing to acknowledge this.

“Although there hasn’t been any phantom recordings of your battle with Corpsemancer, but my Asura Divine Kingdom was able to use a special technique to investigate the memories of the spectators. Your Demon Emperor Armor has special characteristics that are explicitly described in the ancient texts of my Asura Divine Kingdom; the appearance and nature are fully consistent with the descriptions! By just this point alone I wouldn’t have full confidence the armor you’re wearing is the Demon Emperor Armor; after all, it might be a replica. But the most important evidence I have is that your Demon Emperor Armor is missing its heartguard mirror, and that heartguard mirror is in the possession of my Asura Divine Kingdom!”

As the Asura Prince spoke, he took out a black metal disc from his spatial ring; this was the Demon God Emperor’s heartguard mirror.

“Everyone, this is a replica of my Asura Divine Kingdom’s Demon Emperor Armor’s heartguard mirror. Lin Lanjian, do you dare to show that armor you’re wearing and let us all have a look as to whether you’re missing a heartguard mirror? I can tell you that the shape of the gap in the Demon Emperor Armor exactly matches this replica heartguard mirror!”

The Asura Prince’s words were aggressively spoken. All of the heroic young elites present looked at Lin Ming. Several of them

had heard of an approximate description of Lin Ming's demon armor; it seemed it was indeed missing a heartguard mirror.

If this were true, then the Asura Prince's words weren't groundless.

In the face of the Asura Prince's accusations, Lin Ming wasn't panicked or in disbelief as everyone thought he would be. Instead, his expression was that of cold decisiveness, as if everything the Asura Prince had said about the heartguard mirror didn't matter at all.

"Didn't you hear me!?" The Asura Prince took a fierce step forward and took out a chillingly cold long spear from his spatial ring.

Yang Yun stood up at this time, "Situ Chuan, everyone here today are guests that I have personally invited. This Nine Flowers Banquet is a gathering of astounding young elites from all over the world. Are you planning on causing an upheaval at my Nine Flowers Banquet?"

Yang Yun's words didn't carry any momentum with them, but they still gave off an inexplicably fearful feeling. Even the Asura Prince felt somewhat afraid.

At this time, another black-clothed martial artist stood up and said, "Your Highness Crown Prince, we have no intention of causing any conflict at this banquet. It's just that my Asura Divine Kingdom's Demon Emperor Armor truly was lost 12,000 years ago.

My Asura Divine Kingdom opened the Demon Emperor Mystic Realm left behind by the Demon Emperor in order to take out the rare treasures he kept there. However, because of spies that were mixed into our sect, some dastardly thieves managed to sneak their way in and make out with part of our inheritances and treasures. I suspect that this Demon Emperor Armor is one of them! It is an extremely important holy relic of my Divine Kingdom; we must recover it by any means possible.”

The martial artist who spoke was also from the Asura Divine Kingdom, a High Prince Successor. Although he was no longer cut off from the inheritances of direct descendants, he still cared a great deal about the Demon Emperor Armor. According to the ancient records the complete Demon Emperor Armor could not only defend against attacks but also increase a martial artist’s strength and true essence, playing a ghostly and unpredictable effect in battle.

Besides, Lin Ming might even have cultivation methods or other inheritances of the Demon Emperor. If he could recover this then he would have an opportunity to train them.

The black-clothed martial artist spoke to Yang Yun and then turned to Lin Ming, “Lin Lanjian, we won’t investigate how you came about that Demon Emperor Armor as long as you return it to us. In fact, not only will we not dig into your past but we will also grant you a few gifts in gratitude. We believe that Young Hero Lin truly must not have known that the Demon Emperor Armor originated as a main inheritance of my Asura Divine Kingdom.”

The Asura Divine Kingdom’s High Successor already felt that he

was gracious enough. If Lin Ming knew his limits then he should back down now. But in the next moment, Lin Ming's response nearly caused his lungs to explode in rage.

Lin Ming traced his spatial ring and sneered, "I've never seen someone so shameless that never cared about face before. You're saying that just because that heartguard mirror matches with my Demon Emperor Armor that it belongs to your Asura Divine Kingdom? How ridiculous. Why don't you say that your Asura Divine Kingdom's heartguard mirror belongs to me originally?"

"Lin Lanjian, do you want to die!?" The black-clothed martial artist pounded the table. He had never seen such a crazy person that dared to insult their Asura Divine Kingdom like so.

The Asura Prince Situ Chuan had an extremely ugly complexion. He pointed his spear point straight at Lin Ming and said with a voice full of killing intent, "Brother Yang, you saw what happened. It isn't me not giving you face but this Lin Lanjian doesn't care about decorum at all. We already decided not to investigate how Lin Lanjian's seniors stole their way into my Asura Divine Kingdom's Demon Emperor Mystic realm, but this man actually dares to be so shameless as to say that all those stolen treasures belong to him! Brother Yang, even if you must stop me today I will still wet the earth with blood!"

At this point, within Lin Ming's spiritual sea, Demonshine was already angrily growling. No matter how anyone considered it, only Demonshine could be considered the most worthy descendant of the Demon Emperor.

“This group of smelly brats are truly shameless; they actually dare to pose as the Demon Emperor’s descendants! This Saint is about to laugh to death! They must have somehow found their way into Master’s mystic realm 12,000 years ago. Then, they plundered the mystic realm and obtained the heartguard mirror as well as some rare cultivation method manuals. As for all that talk about spies and thieves, those should have been competitors that entered the mystic realm with them. It’s just that this so-called Asura Divine Kingdom must have obtained the majority of the goods while everyone else only obtained a little bit.”

“Then those damned fellows must have posed as Master’s descendants and then claimed that all of Master’s inheritances belonged to them. They are simply brain addled idiots! Lin Ming! Kill him! Paint the walls with his blood!”

Considering what he himself knew, together with his incomplete memories of the Demon Emperor, Lin Ming also agreed with Demonshine. The Asura Divine Kingdom that claimed to be the so-called descendants of the Demon Emperor must have found one of the Demon Emperor’s mystic realms from somewhere, one that hadn’t been the Demon God Imperial Palace either. As for that Demon Emperor Armor being stolen from the mystic realm, that was simply nonsense.

Lin Ming said, “The mystic realms left behind by the ancient ancestors are all ownerless to begin with. They’re left for the fated ones to obtain the treasures within. Your Asura Divine Kingdom only managed to obtain one of the multiple mystic realms that the Demon Emperor left behind, and yet you actually dare to claim without any justification at all that the Demon Emperor is the first Sovereign King of your Asura Divine Kingdom and say that

everything related to the Demon Emperor from all the mystic realms of the world actually belong completely to you. How openly and brazenly shameless of you!”

“Lin Lanjian! You dare to insult my Asura Divine Kingdom again and again! If I don’t kill you today, I’ll never rest!” The Asura Prince revealed a thick killing intent. His expression as he looked at Lin Ming was as if he were staring at a person who had already died.

Lin Ming was well aware that further words were useless. He extracted the red spear from his spatial ring and coldly said, “If you want to fight then let’s fight, don’t waste my time!”

“Good! You truly are crazy! Lin Lanjian, since you want to die so bad then let me help you along! Brother Yang! You have already heard that Lin Lanjian does not oppose this battle! As such, it can’t be described as ruining your Nine Flowers Banquet!” As Situ Chuan spoke, his lips curved up in a vicious smile. He had already decided to kill Lin Ming here and take away the Demon Emperor Armor. This would be a great accomplishment for him!

If he used a soul searching technique he might even be able to find traces of the Demon Emperor’s other inheritances from Lin Ming. This might even include the more precious latter layers of the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’! Situ Chuan didn’t believe for a second that Lin Ming could have such accomplishments today without benefitting from top cultivation methods. As long as he could steal away these techniques and study them himself, then his strength would be greater and the Asura Divine Kingdom would be that much stronger.

Chapter 787 – A Stipulation of Ten Moves

Battle was inevitable.

Yang Yun stood at the center of the Nine Flower Lake's jade pavilion, his clothes fluttering in the wind as he said with a calm expression, "Must you really fight?"

"Humph, Lin Lanjian has humiliated the legacy of my Divine Kingdom. I must kill him!" Situ Chuan said, his voice brooking no doubt.

"Since that's the case, let's make a stipulation of 10 moves. Victory or defeat will be decided in 10 moves; there will be no more fighting after that!"

Yang Yun had settled on 10 moves because he was in fact trying to prevent any deaths occurring from this battle. If these two truly did engage in a fierce struggle, dying wouldn't be unusual.

Having lives taken at his Nine Flowers Banquet would inevitably bring criticism to Yang Yun. Moreover, his original intention had been to befriend Lin Ming, so he couldn't allow Situ Chuan to kill him. But on the other hand, it wouldn't be good if Lin Ming killed Situ Chuan either. Situ Chuan was a Prince of the Asura Divine Kingdom. If he died under Lin Ming's hands then Lin Ming would be chased down and hunted by the Asura Divine Kingdom. If Yang Yun were to try shielding Lin Ming at that time, then that would be the same as publicly slapping the entire Asura Divine Kingdom in the face.

Although there was always infighting and espionage occurring between the four Divine Kingdoms, nothing too great had ever broken out. Everyone knew just how terrifying the consequences would be of two Divine Kingdoms engaging in war.

“Humph, 10 moves are more than enough to kill you! Don’t think that you are invincible just because you managed to hang onto the very end of the Destiny Decree. If it wasn’t for the fact that the Princes of the four Divine Kingdoms weren’t allowed to be listed without permission, I too would be on the Destiny Decree!”

For the inheritance of the Divine Emperor’s throne, unless one was an absolute successor like Yang Yun, there would always be struggles that caused tides of blood to bloom throughout the kingdom. At that time, a Prince’s strength was an extremely sensitive topic. Thus, the four great intelligence networks wouldn’t easily arrange a Prince on the Destiny Decree. Yang Yun was also the same. Of course there were also some Princes that were willing to allow themselves to be ranked on the Destiny Decree in order to shore up support for their side. For instance, the Great Smelting Prince was listed on the Destiny Decree.

Although Situ Chuan was full of confidence, the truth was that he kept 120% vigilance and was ready to display his complete strength. He was well aware just how troublesome Lin Ming could be. Corpsemancer was not an idiot. If he died underneath Lin Ming’s hands then Lin Ming naturally had his strengths.

Then Asura Divine Kingdom’s High Prince Successor Situ Feng said, “Ten moves. If Lin Lanjian loses in that time then he must

hand over the Demon Emperor Armor.”

Situ Feng was also the descendent of a Divine Sea Supreme Elder and he too was extraordinarily strong, otherwise it would have been impossible for him to participate in this Nine Flowers Banquet. However, Situ Feng, Situ Chuan, Yang Yun, and everyone else here were all the same; their dantian was covered in layers of thick fog so it was impossible to see just how high their cultivation was. This sort of technique to hide one’s cultivation was extremely common in the four Divine Kingdoms.

Situ Feng’s eyes shined as he glared at Lin Ming, full of provocation.

Lin Ming was silent for a moment and then he said in a deep bass voice, “If I lose then I will deliver to you the Demon Emperor Armor. But what if I win? Will you hand me the Demon Emperor Amor’s heartguard mirror?”

“Dream on!” Situ Chuan angrily shouted, “The Demon Emperor Armor is originally the holy relic of my Asura Divine Kingdom. Your ancestors stole the Demon Emperor Armor from us 12,000 years ago, and now you actually desire the heartguard mirror too. You truly have no idea of death or danger!”

“Hehe!” Lin Ming contemplatively smiled, “The one who has no idea of death or danger is you. You keep on spouting on and on about how the Demon Emperor is your ancestor, but yet you have no evidence at all. Are you afraid of betting the heartguard mirror because you know you’ve already lost?”

“You!” Situ Chuan was about to rush forwards before Situ Feng held him down.

“Surname Lin, let alone that it is useless, I will also tell you that it is impossible for us to give you the heartguard mirror. We have no authority to do so and it isn’t in our possession to begin with. If we lose then we will give you 100,000 spirit essence stones!”

Even though Situ Feng promised 100,000 spirit essence stones in a single breath, Lin Ming didn’t even bat an eyelash. “100,000 spirit essence stones as a bet for the Demon Emperor Armor? Your plans are quite exquisite!”

100,000 spirit essence stones was not a small number, but it was naturally far from being able to compare to the Demon Emperor Armor. According to Demonshine, the complete Demon Emperor Armor was no less valuable than the Cosmic Melting Furnace, a quasi-Saint artifact.

Also, a defensive quasi-Saint artifact was extremely rare. In terms of value it would not lose out to a true offensive Saint artifact.

A Saint artifact was extremely valuable even in the Realm of the Gods. It wasn’t something that could be purchased with a mere 100,000 spirit essence stones.

“If you lose then take out 10 jin of million year wood spirit jade and also one jin of wood spirit jade quintessence!”

Situ Feng's eyes turned red. There was simply no price for million year wood spirit jade. There wasn't much of that even in the treasuries of the four Divine Kingdoms combined. As for wood spirit jade quintessence, that was even rarer. That required at least five million year wood spirit jade!

After wood spirit jade passed through an immeasurable long time, its most basic components would slowly seep out into the surrounding rock and the impurities within the rock would also permeate the wood spirit jade. It was impossible for ordinary wood spirit jade to exist for several million years, it would simply become a fossil.

In order for wood spirit jade to retain its purity throughout five million years, it would need to be formed from a top heavenly material. For instance, materials such as a 70,000-80,000 year Nirvana Dragon Roots, nine nether grass, profound gold divine fruit, and so on.

These sorts of spiritual plants were few and far between to begin with. Wood spirit jade of this sort was nearly extinct. Once it was formed, it would swallow the natural life essence of the sun and moon, gaining intelligence after a long period of time, and sometimes even gaining its own life.

The value of wood spirit jade quintessence was impossible to measure with spirit essence stones!

“What kind of crazy act are you trying to pull!” Situ Chuan

roared.

“Compared to 10 jin of million year wood spirit jade and another jin of wood spirit jade quintessence, the Demon Emperor Armor is still more valuable!” Lin Ming coldly said.

Situ Chuan laughed like a craving madman, “I think that you’ve misunderstood the situation. You simply do not have the qualifications to discuss conditions with us. If my Asura Divine Kingdom wishes to crush you then we can crush you just like an ant!”

“Oh? Then there’s nothing to discuss. Come see me again when you have the guts to make a bet.” Lin Ming began to put his spear away.

If Situ Chuan and Situ Feng didn’t dare to make a bet then they wouldn’t be able to take back the Demon Emperor Armor.

How could the usually proud and arrogant Situ Chuan swallow such an insult?

“I’m afraid you won’t be alive anymore! Ten jin of million year wood spirit jade and another jin of wood spirit jade quintessence. I’ll take your life in 10 moves!”

Situ Chuan had already impatiently jumped out. He pointed his long spear at Lin Ming and said, “ I will use your blood as a sacrifice to the Demon Emperor Armor!”

Woosh!

With a loud rustling sound, hundreds of crimson seals began spinning around the edge of Situ Chuan's spear. These were all Blood Drinking Seals!

“‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’?”

Lin Ming was slightly startled and then immediately relieved. When he first went into the Demon God Imperial Palace he hadn't been able to locate the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'. The 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' he knew was the complete cultivation method extracted from the Demon Emperor's soul fragment. Now it seemed as if the jade slip containing the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' was kept at another ancient ruins site, and this site had been obtained by the Asura Divine Kingdom.

Woosh! Woosh! Woosh!

With a loud whistling sound, several hundred crimson seals rapidly revolved around the long spear. Lin Ming was familiar with all of these moves. In the past, he had once tried stepping onto the slaughter path. However, he eventually proved that the road others trod didn't necessarily suit him. Only by walking his own path would he be able to move towards the peak of all martial arts.

Lin Ming finally took the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' as well as several other different techniques, using them as a foundation.

After comprehending the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ and fusing in the Concept of Space, the Concept of Thunder, as well as the Concept of Fire, he was able to create moves such as Chasing Sun, Chasing Thunder, Penetrating Rainbow, and Bury the Heavens. To Lin Ming, the power of these abilities was far mightier than the pure ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’.

‘Let me experience your ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’!’

Lin Ming’s eyes flashed with a brilliant fighting spirit. He wanted to just how powerful the Demon Emperor’s famed battle technique would be in the hands of a purely demonic path martial artist!

He wanted to see how this compared to his own self-created techniques!

Woosh!

With a loud cry, Situ Chuan’s spear shot forwards. His first attack was Blood Seal Twisting Murder! The crimson Blood Drinking Seals rapidly revolved, issuing out harsh grating sounds as if space itself was being torn to shreds.

In these 10 moves, Situ Chuan would go all out with everything he had. He would naturally try to kill Lin Ming in these 10 moves.

Lin Ming didn’t plan on staying his hand. He also didn’t underestimate Situ Chan. With a thrust of his spear, the dual Concepts of Thunder and Fire fused together, intensely colliding

with Blood Seal Twisting Murder.

Ca!

Blood Seals smashed onto Lin Ming's red spear, wanting to bounce the spear away. This was Blood Seal Twisting Murder's special effect – twisting away the weapon and directly piercing the chest.

Lin Ming had already expected this. He poured his battle spirit into the shaft of his spear; the Concept of Thunderfire erupted.

Bang!

A sound filled the air like a bolt of heavenly thunder crashing into the earth. A terrifying air wave washed out in all directions. Even though the Nine Flower Lake Pavilion was protected by a hidden array formation, this array formation still creaked and trembled like a small boat in choppy seas.

Great waves rose within the once calm Nine Flower Lake. If the ice lotuses floating on the lake didn't have the protection of array formations then they would have probably been ravaged into flying ash by the fierce detonation of energy.

Yang Yun looked the same throughout, but Lin Ming actually knew just how valuable these ice lotuses were. They were all comparable to heavenly materials. Once the array formation was broken, the losses would be immense.

With a tap of his toes, Lin Ming jumped off the jade platform and flew towards the snowy mountains.

At this time, Situ Chuan had long since been stirred up into a frenzied rage, his eyes bright red like a rabid madman. He could hardly care for these Nine Flower Lake ice lotuses that were simply used to make tea.

He thought that Lin Ming had run away because he couldn't withstand his Blood Seal Twisting Murder. With a sneer, Situ Chuan clearly shouted, "You gutless small fry! Where are you running to!? Primeval Spear Strike!"

With a thrust of his spear, Blood Drinking Seals spun around, creating a twisting red storm. This sort of storm seemed to twist space, forming a powerful suction force like a black hole that swallowed all.

Moves of the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' contained the Concept of Space. When Lin Ming first started to comprehend the offensive use of the Concept of Space, that had all begun from this 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'!

Situ Chuan was overjoyed as he saw Lin Ming's speed suddenly reduce. All martial artists that were caught in his Primeval Spear Strike were like flies in a spider web; it was impossible to escape.

With a clear cry, Situ Chuan's killing intent locked onto Lin Ming. The Concept of Space fused into his spear as he thrust it

towards the point between Lin Ming's eyebrows!

This spear seemed slow but it passed through space in the blink of an eye, suddenly appearing like ghosts and gods in front of Lin Ming!

Such an ephemeral and mystical style had allowed Situ Chuan to slaughter countless masters. This was the move he was most proud of!

However, as Lin Ming faced this spear that suddenly appeared in front of him, his expression didn't even change a tiny bit.

“This is your Concept of Space? Your skill is far too lacking!”

Ho -!

Lin Ming also thrust out a spear. This spear strike seemed even slower than Situ Chuan's!

However, what was unbelievably strange was that for some unknown reason, Lin Ming's spear light reached Situ Chuan's chest first!

What!?!?

Situ Chuan was incomparably shocked, losing all his composure. That spear light had suddenly bloomed in front of his eyes, nearly

blinding him!

Peng!

Situ Chan flew backwards, all of his protective true essence shattered. Blood swelled up within his body but was forcefully suppressed by him. As he looked down, he saw that a large hole had appeared in the heaven-step treasure armor he wore, copious amounts of blood flowing from it.

Chapter 788 – Slaughter Path Showdown

“It’s only been two moves and yet Situ Chuan was injured?” The Seven Star Divine Kingdom’s High Prince Successor said with an astonished expression.

Although every Prince’s strength was kept a confidential secret, the four Divine Kingdoms’ competition with each other was simply too fierce. Situ Chuan was one of the several important Princes of the Asura Divine Kingdom, so it was inevitable that he would be under tight observation from all available intelligence networks. Although it wasn’t known what degree his exact strength reached, people were still able to roughly estimate.

After all, Situ Chuan was one of the Princes who would compete for the highest throne of the Asura Divine Kingdom in the future – his natural talent was undeniable. At 30 years of age, he should now be able to rank on the Destiny Decree. Although it was unknown just who would be stronger between him and Lin Ming, the difference in their abilities shouldn’t be so great!

It wasn’t just the Seven Star High Prince Successor who thought this, but even the Great Smelting Kingdom Prince felt this was just too incredible.

At this time, Yang Yun was calmly drinking some tea when he said, “It isn’t that the disparity in their strength is great, but the disparity in their understanding of the Concept of Space is too great. Just now, that move was only a comparison of whose Concept of Space was more accomplished. Situ Chuan thought that he would be able to win the advantage by fusing the Concept of

Space into his attack, but he never thought that his opponent's attainments in the Concept of Space were even higher. He underestimated his opponent and suffered a blow because of it. His injury is due to the fact that he wasn't mentally prepared in advance."

At this time, Situ Chuan felt extremely shamed and bereaved. The Concept of Space was their Asura Divine Kingdom's most famous Concept. It was recorded within the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art', and was something that only the Situ Royal Family descendants were able to study.

The Concept of Space was known as one of the most difficult and powerful Concepts and also known as the King of Concepts. The entire Situ Family Clan inevitably held pride in themselves because their entire Family Clan could utilize the Concept of Space. Especially Situ Chuan. His talent was extraordinary and he had an extremely high comprehension of the Concept of Space. Even the Divine Emperor appreciated his abilities.

But now, all of that arrogant pride had been ruthlessly destroyed by Lin Ming!

'This boy actually understands the Concept of Space and his method of attack seems similar to my own Asura Divine Kingdom's inheritance. Even the might of the attack is greater! He absolutely has a more complete version of the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'!'

Situ Chan didn't think that Lin Ming's talent in the Concept of Space surpassed his own. He only thought that Lin Ming must have a complete inheritance of the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'!

All of these things should belong in the grasp of their Asura Divine Kingdom!

‘Only my Asura Divine Kingdom’s Situ Family is deserving of this inheritance. There is no one else worthy!’

Situ Chuan cried out within his heart. If he could train in this complete ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ then his strength would inevitably rise. Perhaps when facing Yang Yun, he might not even be overwhelmed by that man’s blinding halo!

“Brother Situ, consider this match finished!” Yang Yun’s voice suddenly sounded out. Although Situ Chuan had been injured because of a brief lapse in his guard, an injury was an injury. This was only supposed to be a friendly spar, not a life or death struggle. Losing in even half a move was considered a loss.

“I refuse to accept this!” Situ Chuan shouted out loud, keeping his spear pointed at Lin Ming. Everything on the line was related to the honor of his Asura Divine Kingdom, so how could he just admit defeat like this? Otherwise, if news of today’s happenings spread out, everyone would know that the rampant and lofty Situ Chuan had lost to someone far younger than him in just two moves. Not just that, but that hairless little boy’s cultivation was more than an entire realm lower than his. He would suffer nothing but ridicule!

“The stipulation of 10 moves hasn’t ended yet. Just because I was surprised for a moment just now doesn’t mean that I lost!”

Since Situ Chuan insisted on finishing the 10 moves to the end,

Yang Yun also didn't say any more. He only silently looked at Lin Ming. He hadn't thought that Lin Ming's comprehension of the Concept of Space would reach such a degree, as if he himself were an omnipotent being. This sort of talent was something he had never heard of before; it simply surpassed his own understanding.

Situ Chuan held his spear flat and his aura exploded from his body. He no longer planned to use the Concept of Space. Since his understanding of Concepts was inferior, he would only be embarrassing himself if he continued to forcefully utilize it. Using it to attack the enemy would be the epitome of stupidity.

But the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' still contained another great supporting pillar besides the Concept of Space. That was comprehension of the slaughter path!

Situ Chuan didn't believe that Lin Ming would also surpass him in the understanding of the slaughter path.

Bang!

Under the incitement of the Blood Drinking Seals, Situ Chuan's killing intent erupted, overwhelming and covering the entire sky. Several hundred Blood Drinking Seals flew high in the air like stars in flight, covering the entire area as they glowed an increasingly blood red.

The skies above the entire Nine Flower Lake surged with energy. Black energy rolled everywhere, emitting a suffocating atmosphere.

By abandoning the Concept of Space, he would decide this with only the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’s’ slaughter path!

In the jade pavilion atop the Nine Flower Lake, several heroic young elites felt indescribably uncomfortable after being enveloped by this killing intent.

Although those that Yang Yun had invited this time were all the chosen prides of heaven within the Sky Spill Continent, that didn’t mean that they were too strong. If they were too young and their cultivation was only at the Revolving Core realm, their strength would still be limited no matter how great their talent. It was impossible for them to withstand Situ Chuan’s killing intent.

“Such a solid killing intent and such keen Blood Drinking Seals... Situ Chuan must have killed countless martial artists these past years!” The Great Smelting Prince sighed. One couldn’t effectively accumulate killing intent by killing weaker martial artists. Only by killing martial artists at the same level, or even other similar prides of heaven, only then by watching a strong opponent fall before them would this image engrave itself into one’s heart, becoming an unwavering belief of victory that was able to sweep away all. This sort of belief could be sent out like an energy field, and once combined with the will to kill an opponent this would then turn into killing intent.

“The Situ Family Clan is indeed a savage and brutal family clan. All of their Princes, successors and other family members will be thrown into dangerous situations at just 15-16 years of age. They are forced to tear down vicious beasts and Giant Demons, and

every Royal Family member that fails this test has nothing but death awaiting them.”

“Yes, within the Asura Divine Kingdom there is a medium-sized dimension that has the Giant Demon race living in it, reared up like pigs in a pen, only becoming the smelting trial field of their Royal Family. For Situ Chuan to understand the slaughter path to such a degree, that means he must have cut down hundreds or thousands of Giant Demons at his level.”

All of the young heroic elites began discussing amongst themselves. The methods that the four Divine Kingdoms used to train the next generation were no great secret. However, the Asura Divine Kingdom’s methods were the harshest, cruelest, and most lacking in mercy of all. For those Royal Family members that had no talent, their fate was even more miserable than that of the common people.

“I will take the advantage with this move!”

Situ Chan fiercely looked at Lin Ming. Although he had been wounded just then because he had underestimated his opponent, no matter the reason a loss was still a loss. He had thrown down his face in order to continue fighting, and if he wasn’t able to suppress Lin Ming and was instead suppressed by Lin Ming, then he would be laughed at by others. This was not a loss he could afford; loss meant complete loss of any face he had left.

“I will take back the Situ Family Clan’s glory. And all of the Demon Emperor’s inheritances should also return to my Situ Family Clan!”

Situ Chuan's heart burned with a raging fire. His anger, his will, his body, everything was fused into this next attack.

“Great Desolate Halberd Art – slaughter path!”

By overdrawing his strength and true essence, Situ Chuan poured his complete being into this attack. A black spear light shot out, tearing through the void as it rolled up into the massive clouds of roiling black energy and fused with the hundreds of Blood Drinking Seals that Situ Chuan had released.

With a thrust of this spear, the mountains and rivers seemed to tremble, creating a dazzlingly blinding attack!

“You want a slaughter path showdown?” Lin Ming's lips curved up in a smile. “Although I have to admit I truly do not have much talent in the slaughter path, I still have been able to achieve a bit through hard work.”

Out of everything that Lin Ming had ever studied, his accomplishments in the Concept of Wind and the slaughter path had never been to his satisfaction. The former had caused Lin Ming's ‘Golden Roc Shattering the Void’ to be hampered at times, and the latter made it so that he wasn't able to display the full strength of the Blood Drinking Seals in the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’.

In particular, as Lin Ming's strength rapidly grew, the Blood Drinking Seals could no longer keep up with his current strength.

However, Lin Ming's slaughter path wasn't just the Blood Drinking Seals.

True essence gathered in his dantian.

The Death God force field and the Asura force field simultaneously erupted!

Bang!

The force field energy rushed out like a tide of molten iron. As soon as Situ Chuan's black energy collided with the Asura force field, it was actually ripped to shreds, half of it immediately dispersing to nothing!

“What!?”

As Lin Ming's Death God force field completely opened to the limit, even Yang Yun was startled. Compared to the scattered killing intent that Situ Chuan had released, Lin Ming's killing intent had condensed into a true force field.

Moreover, it wasn't just one kind of force field but two kinds!

“A force field formed from killing intent. This Lin Lanjian must have grown up by treading over the corpses of martial artists all at his level or higher!” The White Clan Princess sucked in a breath of

cold air. A force field was an extremely rare ability and Lin Ming even had two different kinds.

As for those twenty some year old geniuses with a mere Revolving Core cultivation, all of them paled as they were swallowed up by this killing intent, nearly falling down where they stood.

Bury the Heavens!

True essence howled. The Concept of Fire and the Concept of Space fused together. The Eight Inner Hidden Gates opened to the limit and the large success bronze battle spirit was poured into his spear.

What Lin Ming used was impressively Bury the Heavens, a self-created move modeled with the strongest aspects of the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' as the foundation.

A red spear tore through the void, all of the power of space swirling up into a space storm. The Burning Star Flame was galvanized by the wild space claws, evolving into a demonic black flame!

Chi chi chi!

The demonic flame burned apart space, causing massive amounts of space fragments to scatter about. These space fragments served as a substitute for Blood Drinking Seals as they spun around at a

maddening speed!

“Ahhhh!”

As Situ Chuan saw Lin Ming's fierce attack come at him, he barked out a wild shout. His face flushed an unusual blood red. What he used was an arcane skill. To a demonic path martial artist, this sort of arcane skill that burned one's bloodline to forcefully enhance one's strength was extremely common. Of course, after using it, one had to pay the price. If the side effects were light, then his meridians would be damaged. If the side effects were serious, then it would heavily damage his life source.

At this time, Situ Chuan no longer had any other path to take. He had to win in this move!

Bang!

Two spears violently collided together. A wild true essence shockwave surged out, uncontrollably smashing into the Nine Flower Lake's jade pavilion until it seemed to be on the verge of collapse. Several Revolving Core young elites whitened, and those early Revolving Core martial artists were all forced out of their seats and several steps back, nearly vomiting blood.

This continued until Yang Yun, the Great Smelting Prince, and the White Clan Princess all acted together, blocking the turbulent energy flows.

Underneath everyone's eyes, a surprising scene occurred. The space fragments that swirled around Lin Ming's spear struck Situ Chuan's Blood Drinking Seals, crushing them until they were less than half the original size. Then, after breaking through Situ Chuan's spear light, Lin Ming's spear potential didn't yet disappear. It brought along with it a blazing fire and terrifying Concept of Space as it struck Situ Chuan's bodily protective true essence.

Situ Chuan's bodily true essence immediately disintegrated and he flew backwards.

The result of the battle had exceeded everyone's earlier expectations. Situ Chuan had been completely suppressed and abused by Lin Ming. But how could this be? When Lin Ming first faced Corpsemancer he had become victorious only after a hard-fought battle. But now, facing Situ Chuan, he won with considerable ease.

Did this mean that Situ Chuan was far inferior to Corpsemancer?

Chapter 789 – 8000 Mile Black Swamp

Situ Chuan crashed into the Nine Flower Lake, causing ice cold water to splashed into the clear skies.

A single spear strike had sent Situ Chuan rocketing into the lake, but Lin Ming was still flying high in the air as if he hadn't used much energy at all.

“How terrifying!”

As everyone looked at Lin Ming fluttering high in the air, those several Revolving Core martial artists that had nearly coughed up blood turned even more pallid. A moment ago, they had felt an irresistibly powerful strength in the aftermath of that collision just now. In truth, they were all inferior to Situ Chuan. Although Situ Chuan was older than they were, his cultivation had still reached the peak of the second stage of Life Destruction.

But that Lin Lanjian, his age was unknown. Perhaps he might not even be over 26 years of age. His cultivation was only at the late Revolving Core realm and yet his strength was enough to completely suppress Situ Chuan.

This caused them all to feel greatly frustrated and helpless. This simply didn't seem like a talent that a human should possess.

It wasn't just the Revolving Core martial artists that were startled, but the several other Princes in the audience were also shocked. Lin Ming would inevitably become one of the highest

peak powerhouses of the Sky Spill Continent. Such a person would be able to wield near-unlimited influence throughout the entire continent in the future. And the most important factor was that he didn't belong to any of the four Divine Kingdoms or their subordinates. His future possibilities were endless!

Bang!

The surface of the water erupted as Situ Chuan shot upwards. At this moment, his face was white and his hair was a ruined mess. His entire body was dripping with water and he was embarrassed beyond being embarrassed.

Lin Ming indifferently looked at Situ Chuan. Situ Chuan's defensive ability to withstand attacks was too strong. Even though he had been heavily struck twice, his injuries actually weren't heavy at all.

However, this was also within reason. The 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' had become famous as an offensive battle technique of the Demon Emperor. But, it originally wasn't used only as an offensive ability, but also a defensive one. The Blood Drinking Seals could be used to attack as well as defend.

Situ Chuan had fused Blood Drinking Seals into his protective true essence, causing his protective true essence to surpass common sense!

'That Situ Chuan is definitely a true master. Although he might be a little weaker than Corpsemancer, it wasn't by too much. And

if he had used that arcane ability to stimulate his bloodline just now then he would even be able to surpass Corpsemancer. Too bad for him, the one he ran into today is me.'

Meeting Lin Ming was Situ Chuan's own bad luck. As the saying went, know yourself, know the enemy, and be undefeatable. Lin Ming had already practiced Situ Chuan's 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' for many years now, and the version he studied was far more complete.

For instance, all of those moves Situ Chuan used just now like Blood Seal Twisting Murder, Primeval Spear Strike, the slaughter path, Lin Ming knew all of those techniques like the back of his hand. There might be no one more clear about the characteristics of Blood Drinking Seals than he was.

Before they fought, all of Situ Chuan's techniques had already been thoroughly understood by Lin Ming. How could he still fight?

And what was lamentable was that Situ Chuan's two great pillars – the Concept of Space and the slaughter path – were all completely defeated by Lin Ming, making it so that he couldn't display the true strength of the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'.

Then, Situ Chuan's only advantage over Lin Ming was that his cultivation was a realm and a half higher than his. But even so, with the support of his battle spirit, Eight Inner Hidden Gates, comprehension of Concepts, and many other factors, all of this made it so that Situ Chuan was tyrannically oppressed from start to finish.

Originally, Situ Chuan's terrifying defensive power was the reason that he could rank on the Destiny Decree. However, defense couldn't be compared to offense. Offense could be used to suppress others, but being better in only defense meant that one would be smacked around a lot longer. And as the battle had continued, Situ Chuan had seemed incomparably distressed as it looked as if he were being slapped around without any strength or resistance.

In his current state, Situ Chuan's face violently distorted with anger. He couldn't accept this defeat. He would rather lose a hundred years of his life than admit defeat to Lin Ming.

"Brother Situ, you've lost." Yang Yun rose up and said.

Situ Chuan's lips twitched, blue veins popping out on his forehead. Again and again he had lost miserably. Situ Chuan could no longer say that he would finish the rest of the 10 moves with Lin Ming. And, even though he didn't wish to admit it, continuing this battle would be futile – he would simply be beaten down again.

"Don't fight, the two of us are not his opponent. Continuing to fight is just shaming yourself." A true essence sound transmission sounded out in Situ Chuan's ears. This message had come from Situ Feng.

"This boy obviously understands all of your abilities, he should also have inherited the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'. However, we know nothing about him. All we can see is that there is the shadow of the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' in his techniques. We must

report this matter to his Highness the Divine Emperor and allow him to decide what shall be done!”

Situ Chuan’s grim face seemed indecisive. Then, he grit his teeth and slowly fell down from the air.

“Ten jin of million year wood spirit jade and one jin of wood spirit jade quintessence.” Lin Ming said.

As Situ Chuan and Situ Feng heard these words, their lips spasmed. Even with their own great net worths, producing these sorts of treasures would still be extremely difficult.

“I haven’t brought those things with me. I can compensate you with spirit essence stones and other things.” Situ Chuan said with a dark and gloomy expression.

Lin Ming chuckled, “Million year wood spirit jade and wood spirit jade quintessence are priceless treasures that cannot be bought; their value cannot be estimated with mere spirit essence stones. With so many heroic young elites here, there are countless treasures on them. With your status as an Asura Divine Kingdom Prince, borrowing them shouldn’t be too difficult.”

“You!”

Situ Chuan’s intestines painfully twisted together as he heard Lin Ming’s words. Situ Feng was afraid he would open his large mouth and say something irreproachably stupid so he stepped forwards

and said, “Since we were willing to make a bet, we’re are also prepared to lose. Your Highness the Crown Prince, please allow us to borrow your wood spirit jade!”

There was only one Divine Kingdom Crown Prince present – Yang Yun. The Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom had the richest wood spirit jade resources, so he was the only one here capable of easily bringing out ten jin of wood spirit jade and a jin of wood spirit jade quintessence.

Yang Yun smiled as he stood up and said, “Everyone here are grand characters of the Sky Spill Continent. For us to all gather here at my Nine Flowers Banquets is also a stroke of destiny. We must not harm our friendships. Since Brother Lin desires wood spirit jade, I indeed have some that I may lend to Brother Situ.”

As Yang Yun spoke, he took out a jade box from his spatial ring. The crystal clear and dazzling jade box was only three inches long. After opening it, a brilliant flaming light suddenly bloomed outwards. Yang Yun took out a wood spirit jade the size of a quail egg from the jade box. Everyone was startled at the sight of this wood spirit jade – the color was an unexpected deep gold.

“That is wood spirit jade quintessence!”

Even though the martial artists present were extraordinarily wealthy individuals, this was also the first time they had seen the rare wood spirit jade quintessence.

Yang Yun said, “Wood spirit jade quintessence is countless times

more valuable than common wood spirit jade. Don't look at how small this wood spirit jade quintessence in my hands is; the truth is that there is already one jin and three taels here. As for the million year wood spirit jade, I haven't brought that with me today. After some time I shall go to the kingdom's treasury and select some suitable material for Brother Lin."

Lin Ming said, "Your Highness Crown Prince is too polite. The extra three taels of this wood spirit jade quintessence are far more than enough to make up for ten jin of million year wood spirit jade."

Lin Ming had inherited the memories of that Realm of the Gods alchemist so he had an approximate understanding of the value of wood spirit jade.

"Haha, alright then." Yang Yun didn't argue. A blue light surrounded the jade box and the box then slowly flew towards Lin Ming.

Lin Ming received the jade box and placed it within his spatial ring, "Thank you, Your Highness the Crown Prince."

Lin Ming's words were sincerely spoken from the heart. Ever since coming to the Nine Furnace Divine Palace, Lin Ming had a very favorable impression of Yang Yun.

"Haha, the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom is truly extravagant. That wood spirit jade quintessence is mined from the 8000 Mile Black Swamp of the Sea of Miracles!" The Great Smelting Prince

said with a smile.

“The Sea of Miracles’ 8000 Mile Black Swamp?” Lin Ming asked as he heard the Great Smelting Prince’s words. In his mind, a strange association was forming.

“Mm? Brother Lin hasn’t heard of the Black Swamp before?” The Great Smelting Prince shot Lin Ming a strange look but continued to explain, “The Sea of Miracles is known as being the Sea of No Return and the Ocean of Endless Storms. It is the most terrifying life forbidden zone in the entire Sky Spill Continent!”

As the Great Smelting Prince spoke to here, the Seven Star Divine Kingdom High Successor also smiled, shaking his head as he added, “Brother Ouye, your description of the Sea of Miracles as a life forbidden zone is far too pale. There are many areas in the Sky Spill Continent known as life forbidden zones, but the truth is that there are only one or two big cats within. Most of them can be handled by a mere Revolving Core powerhouse.”

As the Seven Star High Successor spoke to here, the other martial artists smiled. Indeed, to martial artists of different boundaries of strength, the definition of a life forbidden zone was also different.

“Old Third Li, you don’t need to interrupt me.” The Great Smelting Prince said with a teasing laugh. It was obvious from his casual tone that he had a good personal friendship with the Seven Star High Successor.

“The Sea of Miracles is a true life forbidden zone, and also the

most dangerous land in the entire Sky Spill Continent, bar none. After entering deep into the Sea of Miracles, it is said that the entire sea is a lifeless, pitch black, and the skies are forever covered in layers upon layers of lightning storms. It isn't an exaggeration to say that entering the Sea of Miracles is an absolute death sentence, without exception. Even Divine Sea Supreme Elders are the same. Up until now, there has never been a record of anyone ever having managed to cross the Sea of Miracles. Even the four Divine Kingdoms' Divine Emperors all worship and revere the Sea of Miracles."

"And surrounding the entire Sea of Miracles is the 8000 Mile Black Swamp, which can also be considered as the shores of the Sea of Miracles. Because the land topography is similar to a beach and shallow tidelands, the entire surrounding of the Sea of Miracles appears to look like a black swamp. Even though this black swamp is lower risk than the Sea of Miracles, it still isn't a place that a Divine Sea powerhouse can freely enter and leave. There are even Divine Sea powerhouses that can perish within if their luck is poor enough. For instance, even if I were to enter into the 8000 Mile Black Swamp, it wouldn't matter how many magical treasures and defensive items I brought with me; I would never return."

The Great Smelting Price had a self-deprecating smile as he spoke to here, but Lin Ming's heart was actually racing with emotions. This Sea of Miracles sounded exactly like the Eternal Demon Abyss!

The Eternal Demon Abyss was also known as the land of no return. When the number one top powerhouse of the Holy Demon Continent had reached a bitter bottleneck in his cultivation, he had entered the Eternal Demon Abyss to search for a lucky chance.

But, the result was that he had died there, never to return!

And around the Eternal Demon Abyss was the 1000 mile forbidden zone. Although the risks were far, far lower than in the true Eternal Demon Abyss, it still wasn't a place that an Emperor level martial artist could freely enter.

Whether it was the High Lords of the 12 Skysplit Towers or the Tower Masters themselves, none of them had even returned alive after entering the 1000 mile forbidden zone. As for Lin Ming, he had only managed to escape the 1000 mile forbidden zone by relying on the memories of the Demon Emperor as well as his own unique abilities.

And listening to this Great Smelting Prince's words, the 8000 Mile Black Swamp was extremely similar to the 1000 mile forbidden zone of the Eternal Demon Abyss.

The Skill Spill Continent had the Sea of Miracles and the Holy Demon Continent had the Eternal Demon Abyss. Could this really have been a mere coincidence?

As Lin Ming was thinking this, the Great Smelting Prince's next words raised even greater waves in Lin Ming's mind.

He said, "Every 10 years, there will be a black tsunami that comes from the Sea of Miracles. Normally, the tsunami will reach out to a distance of 8000-9000 miles, completely covering the 8000 Mile Black Swamp."

“This black tsunami is wholly terrifying. If one is caught within, then that is certain death. But although this black tsunami is terrifying, there are still great advantages to be had. That is that the wood spirit jade floating in the Sea of Miracles will rush out into the Black Swamp where it can be mined by others. Thus, even though the four Divine Kingdoms were founded over 10,000 years ago, the amount of wood spirit jade resources have never fallen off, always managing to continuously replenish themselves.”

Chapter 790 – Heavencraft Xiaoxiao's Request

Lin Ming took a deep breath, unable to calm his heart. The Sea of Miracles and the Eternal Demon Abyss were both absolute life forbidden zones, both of them able to bury even Divine Sea Supreme Elders.

Although the surrounding area was relatively safer, it still wasn't a place where anyone below the Divine Sea realm could hope to live through.

In addition, the Sea of Miracles and the Eternal Demon Abyss both had eruptions. The Sea of Miracles had its black tsunamis and the Eternal Demon Abyss had its great black waves. After erupting, both of them would carry materials from their center. The Sea of Miracles would bring out wood spirit jade and the Eternal Demon Abyss would bring out Demon God Bones.

Wood spirit jade was the condensed essence of ancient spiritual plants.

Demon God Bones were the condensed essence of powerful ancient martial artists and vicious beasts.

How similar they were!

The Sea of Miracles was simply the Sky Spill Continent's Eternal Demon Abyss. It would be impossible to describe their similarities

as being just coincidental. They must be linked somehow!

Thinking of the apocalyptic catastrophe that happened in the Sky Spill Continent 100,000 years ago, the immortal goddess deeply slumbering within the Eternal Demon Abyss, as well as the eternally beating 100,000 year heart of the ancient Great Emperor, Lin Ming had absolute belief that all of these was because of some incredible unknown secret.

“Brother Lin?” The Great Smelting Prince couldn’t help but ask Lin Ming as he saw him deep in thought.

“It’s nothing, I was just shocked by the mysteries of this Sea of Miracles. I wonder, is there anything else special about this Sea of Miracles?”

“Yes, I hear that there exists a Temple of Marvels that floats above the skies in the Sea of Miracles. It is illusory and elusive like a dreaming mirage. It’s only that this temple is deep within the Sea of Miracles and guarded by some wild and ancient sea beasts. These sea beasts can emit a pressure that can stop even the heart of a Divine Sea Supreme Elder. These are existences that are beyond our imagination.” The Great Smelting Prince sighed as he spoke to here. Although he was considered fairly strong within the four Divine Kingdoms now, he was simply not worth mentioning when compared to those ancient and mystical existences in the Sea of Miracles.

Let alone him, even his father, the Divine Emperor, wouldn’t be able to return if he went to the Sea of Miracles. The great vastness of this world surpassed all of their imaginations.

‘The Sea of Miracles has this sea beast and the Eternal Demon Abyss has the ancient great beast; this is truly surprisingly consistent.’ Lin Ming was already fully convinced that there was some sort of inevitable relation between the Sea of Miracles and the Eternal Demon Abyss. They might be two entrances into a world.

But what was strange was that in the vast and endless universe, why would such miraculous mysteries appear on the incomparably ordinary world of the Sky Spill Continent? That ancient vicious beast that seemed like a God beast was not a being that even general Realm of the Gods powerhouse characters like the Demon Emperor could compare with.

“Has anyone entered the Temple of Marvels before?” Lin Ming asked.

“Hilarious.” The Big Dipper High Successor smiled as he shook his head. “That temple is a legend to begin with; moreover, it exists deep in the Sea of Miracles. No one who has ever stepped foot into the Sea of Miracles has returned, so how could anyone have entered it?”

As the Temple of Miracles was brought up, the Nine Flower Banquet became even more lively. Many martial artists began speaking of certain fables of the Sea of Miracles, making Lin Ming feel even more complicated and confused.

...

After the banquet reached its end, Lin Ming was invited by Yang Yun to the Crown Prince Palace. At this time, Yang Yun was wearing a five-clawed golden dragon robe, and floating in front of him was a jade array disc. On top of the array disc was a projected map of the entire Sky Spill Continent.

The four Divine Kingdoms, the Sea of Miracles, and even ancient family clans and hidden worlds were all shown on the map, looking incomparably broad and wondrous.

Yang Yun looked at this map and suddenly said, “Brother Lin, I heard that you are collecting top grade wood spirit jade?”

“Yes.”

Yang Yun didn’t ask why Lin Ming was gathering wood spirit jade. He looked thoughtful for a moment and then said, “Why don’t you consider joining a side force? You can borrow their power to rapidly collect wood spirit jade and they would even be able to protect you, so why not do it? For instance, about today’s matter... Asura Divine Kingdom’s Situ Chuan and Situ Feng bullied you because you didn’t have any great power supporting you from behind. That is the only reason that they dared to attack you. Moreover... perhaps Brother Lin has already been included on the Asura Divine Kingdom’s hit list. If you somehow end up falling into the hands of the Asura Divine Kingdom’s top powerhouses in the future, then the consequences would be disastrous!”

Yang Yun’s intentions were obvious. He wished to win Lin Ming

over to the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.

Lin Ming had already guessed Yang Yun's goal before the Nine Flower Banquet started.

If he joined the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, then collecting wood spirit jade would naturally not be a problem anymore. As long as he was able to prove of sufficient value, then the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom wouldn't begrudge him any amount of wood spirit jade. And with the shelter of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, he also wouldn't need to fear the Asura Divine Kingdom anymore.

However, there were simply too many secrets on Lin Ming's body. If he joined the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom then he would be surrounded by Divine Sea powerhouses everywhere. It would be far too easy for those Supreme Elders to monitor him without him knowing at all.

Not to mention everything else, but if just his Cosmic Melting Furnace that he used for alchemy was revealed to those old monsters, then his fate could be imagined.

Lin Ming wasn't used to letting others control his fate, nor would he join a Holy Land level influence.

"I thank Your Highness the Crown Prince for your reminder. But, I am used to freely wandering about and don't wish to temporarily join any side influence."

“Oh? Well, that is indeed regrettable.” Yang Yun shook his head as if he were feeling rather sorry for everything. “If Brother Lin has a change of mind, then my Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom’s doors are open for you at any time.”

“Thank you Crown Prince Your Highness for your kindness. In the future, if possible, I will certainly thank you for your hospitality.” Lin Ming cupped his fists together. He had already succeeded in obtaining the wood spirit jade quintessence. Now, in addition to the Five Color Fruit, Void Temper Root, skyflower stones, and dragonspine grass, he already had 80-90% confidence that he could successfully refine the Fivefade Void Pill. It was nearly time to leave the trouble-laden Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.

Lin Ming had already made his plans. First he would refine the Fivefade Void Pill and then open the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. Then, he would look for some remote hidden area to safely make a breakthrough to Life Destruction.

When he had enough strength, he would make sure Divine Phoenix Island was safe and sound and then he would begin the final preparations to ascend into the Realm of the Gods.

After Lin Ming bid his farewells to Yang Yun, he first returned to his own room. As he passed through the door, he saw that Xiaoxiao was sitting on the bed, a bit stunned, as if she had lost her soul.

There were still tears hanging from the corners of her eyes; it was obvious she had just been crying.

“Miss Heavencraft?” Lin Ming asked with some surprised. He didn’t know what matter Xiaoxiao had experienced, but this was his room. Her room should be next door, and since it was already nighttime, what was she doing in his room?

“Sir Lin...”

As Xiaoxiao saw Lin Ming, she nipped her lips and began to speak before she hesitated. She looked extremely pitiful.

“What’s the matter? It’s fine to say it.”

Xiaoxiao took several deep breaths to calm herself down. But, tears still glistened in her eyes. She said, “I saw the Nine Furnace Guard’s Fleeting Dragon... he, he showed me some things.”

Xiaoxiao’s lips quivered as she spoke, as if whatever it was had been terrifying.

“What is it?”

“It’s evidence about my father, my grandfather, and even more ancient Family Heads from more distant times... that is the dark history of my Heavencraft Family Clan...”

Xiaoxiao seemed to use up every last ounce of her strength to speak. She grabbed the table to support herself, revealing a smooth

jade white arm even as her full and milky breasts fiercely heaved up and down.

“This evidence is real?”

“It... it should be.” Xiaoxiao had helped and managed the trading company for so many years that she could certainly distinguish if it were true or real. It was only because the evidence was real that she was at a complete loss of what to do.

She didn't know what the Nine Furnace Guard wished to do, but such detailed evidence absolutely couldn't be collected in a short one or two days. That meant that the Nine Furnace guard had already been investigating her Heavencraft Family Clan for a long time!

Could it be that Yang Yun wanted to control her Heavencraft Family Clan?

With an absolute disparity in masters and strength, as well as enough reasons to act, Xiaoxiao had no doubt that as long as Yang Yun wished to, he could easily annex their Heavencraft Trading Company!

To Xiaoxiao, it was like she had been struck by a bolt of lightning out of nowhere!

“You say that Yang Yun wants to swallow up your Heavencraft Trading Company, but do you think that the Heavencraft Trading

Company is worth him doing so?” Lin Ming asked in reply.

“I have no idea... the Nine Furnace Guard only showed me the evidence, they didn’t actually say what they planned to do with it...” Xiaoxiao shook her head. Although she was still extremely afraid, she had a faint guess about some possibilities. It wasn’t worth it for Yang Yun to spend so much time and effort on just the small Heavencraft Trading Company. But, if the Nine Furnace Guard investigated not just the Heavencraft Trading Company but other organizations too, then there was likely to be great turbulence in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom’s future. For such a small fish as her trading company, it was likely they would be washed away in the chaos.

“You told me this because you want me to help you?” Lin Ming directly asked. Xiaoxiao wouldn’t tell him all this just because she wanted to talk.

“I...” Xiaoxiao’s eyes flashed with shimmering tears. She bit her lips until they turned white and said, “I would like to request Mister Lin stay in the Heavencraft Trading Company for some time again. I beg you!”

Xiaoxiao bowed as she spoke. Lin Ming froze for a moment, startled, before understanding Xiaoxiao’s intentions.

Lin Ming had helped Xiaoxiao obtain the position of Family Head and Xiaoxiao had repaid him with the dragonspine grass. Their former agreement should now have come to an end. Lin Ming could leave the Heavencraft Family Clan at any time.

Xiaoxiao wished for Lin Ming to stay in order to be the warding charm of their Heavencraft Family Clan.

Behind the Nine Furnace Guard lay Yang Yun. And Xiaoxiao had seen with her own eyes just how much Yang Yun valued and favored Lin Ming. If Lin Ming stayed in the Heavencraft Family Clan then it was likely that Yang Yun would give Lin Ming face and leave the Heavencraft Family Clan a path out of this chaos. After all, the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom had six great commercial organizations, and the Heavencraft Trading Company was ranked near the end of these six. All the trading companies were far from being able to compare to the two great banks and the Hundred Treasure Auction House.

After Lin Ming understood all of this, he shook his head and said, "I'm sorry, but I can't promise you that."

Staying at the Heavencraft Trading Company was impossible. Lin Ming had already been locked on to by the Asura Divine Kingdom. If he continued to stay at the Heavencraft Trading Company, that would only be possible if he joined the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom and found shelter under them. Otherwise, he would just be seeking his own death.

Hearing Lin Ming's instant rejection, Xiaoxiao paled. She already knew it was a tough, nearly impossible request, but she never thought that Lin Ming would refuse her so simply and decisively without any wriggle room at all.

She fell to her knees like a broken puppet. After several breaths of time, she bit her lips and seemed to fill with determination, as if she had come to a momentous decision. She reached out her slender and trembling fingers to grip the collar of her clothes. “Sir Lin, I beg you to save me, save the Heavencraft Trading Company. If you can help me I am willing to do anything for you. I... I...”

Tears fell down Xiaoxiao’s face, her body quaking as she began to unravel the buckles of her clothes, revealing a pure, powder white neck.

Chapter 791 – Refining the Fivefade Void Pill

Xiaoxiao's collar was originally very high. As she peeled it off, the deep purple cloth cast a faint silhouette on her pure white skin. Under the swaying and dim candlelight, her luscious body flowed like smooth wood spirit jade; it seemed exceptionally soft and beautiful.

After untying the first buckle, Xiaoxiao seemed to have found her courage. She then continued with the second and the third buckle as she bit her tender lips and said, "Sir Lin, I know that you have the eye and appreciation of the Crown prince. I... I'm merely the head of a small trading company; I haven't even held a succession ceremony yet. There's nothing I can bring out that would be able to move you again save for my pure virgin body. Still, even though I know that I am not enough, I have nothing else to offer you..."

Xiaoxiao closed her eyes, her long eyelashes trembling in the light. Two drops of crystal clear tears silently fell from the corners of her eyes.

Lin Ming never thought that such a sudden change would occur. He couldn't help but sigh in his heart.

These were the cruel and callous rules of the world.

In the face of absolute power there was no mercy or sympathy. In order to survive, one had to pay a high enough price. Even the exquisite and beautiful Heavencraft Xiaoxiao, a beautiful woman that could cause the downfall of nations and had near endless

resources, even she could do nothing but bow her head before a stronger power. Otherwise, she could only wait for her own destruction.

This was the sorrow of the weak.

This was their never ending plight.

Lin Ming shook his head and said, “Miss Heavencraft, you don’t have to do this and cause yourself to suffer.”

“I’m completely willing. Compared to the foundation of my family clan, what worth is my body? Much less, Sir Lin is also a chosen talent gifted by the heavens. As for me, I’m but a nobody. My only fear is that Sir Lin despises my average appearance.”

As she spoke, she quietly pulled down her veil, revealing an appearance as soft and as glorious as the bright moon. Her purple overcoat also fell, sliding down her fragrant shoulders and ravishing breasts.

She felt a cold wind brush by her body, whereafter her originally pale face blushed a bright red. In fact, she wouldn’t have pushed Lin Ming away if he ever desired her. If it weren’t for him, she would’ve already been abducted by Corpsemancer, living a life where she couldn’t even die if she wished to.

“Miss Heavencraft, I won’t stay at the Heavencraft Trading Company. You don’t need to ask me anymore.”

A simple and succinct refusal. Xiaoxiao froze where she was.

Lin Ming stood up and let out a long sigh. If he stayed at the Heavencraft Trading Company, he was doomed to seek asylum underneath the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. Otherwise, he would never cross over the perils of the Asura Divine Kingdom.

Moreover, if Yang Yun really cleaned up and annexed the trading companies and the other great financial organizations of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, only leaving behind the Heavencraft Trading Company, then this was the same as Lin Ming owing Yang Yun a great favor. One and then two, Lin Ming would slowly become entangled in the affairs of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. At that time, it would be equal to having joined them.

There might be over a dozen Emperor level powerhouses in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, and Lin Ming had on him the Cosmic Melting Furnace and the Burning Star Flame. These were treasures that Divine Sea alchemists would go mad with jealousy over. The only choice would be for him to not use these treasures ever; otherwise, once he was discovered by those old fellows with incomparably sensitive perceptions, his fate might even be worse than falling into the hands of the Asura Divine Kingdom.

As he looked at the pitiful and beautiful Xiaoxiao, he had a suspicion floating in his mind. ‘When Yang Yun invited me, he also invited Xiaoxiao. Had he already planned for all of this to happen?’

Although these sorts of methods left Lin Ming very unhappy, the

truth was that the Nine Furnace Guard had only shown the evidence to Xiaoxiao. No one had forced her to look to Lin Ming for help, as if nothing that had happened so far involved Yang Yun. Even Lin Ming couldn't be sure whether or not he was involved.

Besides, no one forced him to promise Xiaoxiao anything. The choice between a beauty and to leave was his to make.

"Why...?" Xiaoxiao fell to the ground in exhaustion, her voice shaking.

By joining the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, Lin Ming would have resources, the trust and appreciation of the Crown Prince, the asylum of the Divine Kingdom, and so much more! This was a massive opportunity that others couldn't even dream of!

Lin Ming didn't intend to reveal his thoughts that he felt somehow Yang Yun had plotted this. Regardless of this, because of the many secrets on his body, he didn't intend to involve himself in the upcoming whirlpool.

As he saw Xiaoxiao's miserable appearance, he eventually couldn't bear it any longer. He sighed and said, "Miss Heavencraft, while I can't agree to your request, I can leave a letter here for you. As for His Highness the Crown Prince, I can't say whether or not he'll value my words."

Lin Ming was self-aware of his own status and strength. Although he could be said to have endless potential, his strength was still far from reaching the peak of the Sky Spill Continent. If he could rank

at the top of the Destiny Decree, then he could perhaps request a favor. But, for now, it wouldn't be easy to do so. As for leaving a so-called letter behind... Its main content would be to thank Yang Yun for his gracious hospitality while also vaguely mentioning Xiaoxiao.

If Yang Yun agreed, this would be considered as Lin Ming owing Yang Yun a favor.

“Thank you, thank you so much Sir Lin...” Xiaoxiao bowed again. She was already more than satisfied with this result.

She waited for Lin Ming, her fingers pressed against the purple belly band around her waist, still not moving to put her clothes back on.

Lin Ming looked at the nervous Xiaoxiao who was overwhelmed with anxiety. Then, he smirked and said, “Miss Heavencraft, please, put some clothes on. While you are indeed beautiful, I already have a wife, and two at that.”

Lin Ming couldn't help but acknowledge that he was attracted to Xiaoxiao's body. Even though his will was firm, he inevitably felt the fires of lust stir up within him. But not only did he have Mu Qianyu, but more importantly he also had Qin Xingxuan who he hadn't even had a marriage ceremony with or brought to the nuptial chamber. If he were to have sexual relations with another girl before completing his marriage with Qin Xingxuan, then this would be no different from betraying her.

Xiaoxiao blushed red and hurriedly dressed herself. She felt something in her heart but she couldn't quite place her finger on what it was. Although she had made her decision during a time when she was nervous and not totally willing, she had still firmed her determination. For everything to suddenly end like this, she couldn't help but feel an inexplicable sense of failure.

After waiting for Xiaoxiao to dress, Lin Ming picked up a pen and some paper, and began writing a letter to Yang Yun. This could also be considered his parting farewell.

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Three days later at nighttime, within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, at a mountain range that lay close to the Sea of Miracles, a green masked youth landed on the ground like a ghost. This youth that wore a wood spirit jade mask was Lin Ming.

A wood spirit jade mask could block even the perception of a Divine Sea Supreme Elder. It could be called the power most formidable and yet most simple method to hide one's identity.

The reason he dared to walk within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was all dependent on this wood spirit jade mask.

Moreover, these were the lands of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. Even if the Asura Divine Kingdom intended to hunt him down, they wouldn't blatantly and flagrantly do so here.

Still, he remained as careful and safe as he could. After leaving the Crown Prince Palace, he walked through several different transmission arrays and also changed routes several times before arriving at this nearly inaccessible and remote mountain range.

The heaven and earth origin energy here was barren to the point of nearly not existing. Without any resources here, martial artists wouldn't search this place either.

Bang!

With a thrust of his spear, its sharp sword pierced through the mountain side like a knife cutting through tofu, immediately opening up a 200 foot deep cave. Lin Ming smoothed out the cave, reorganizing the lay out a bit, and then lay down several cloaking array formations and alarm array formations around the entrance. Only then did he fully enter.

These array formations all had wood spirit jade powder added to them. They were excellent at isolating energy.

He cut several more chambers in this cave and arranged the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array in the largest chamber. With Demonshine's help and in addition to his memories of the array formation, although he couldn't reproduce the complete power of the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array in the Demon God Imperial palace, he could still simulate 30-40% of it.

Then, Lin Ming waved his hand and a reddish-golden small bronze furnace flew out of him, spinning in the air. It soared into

the air, spinning and growing until it became several dozen feet high with a golden light shining out from within. Brilliant flames burned all over the surface. This was the Cosmic Melting Furnace.

For the sake of security, this hiding place he chose had extremely poor heaven and earth origin energy. He had no choice but to fill all corners of the room with great numbers of spirit essence stones and fire-attribute top quality true essence stones. For a time, the entire chamber was thick with fire-attribute origin energy. The Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array released red clouds and the Cosmic Melting Furnace glowed an even brighter crimson color.

Alchemy was an extremely tedious and complicated process. On top of that, he had only studied alchemy for less than a year. Even though he had inherited the complete experiences and knowledge of the Realm of the Gods alchemist and had even used over half of all the precious medicinal materials he had obtained from the Yin Yang Profound Palace and the South Sea Demon Region's medicine gardens, he still wasn't skilled enough to have absolute confidence he could successfully refine or even control a top grade pill such as the Fivefade Void Pill.

He estimated that he would need to practice alchemy for another one or two years if he wanted to increase his chances of successfully refining the Fivefade Void Pill to 70-80%. However, he couldn't afford to wait for such a long time. His only chance was to use the wood spirit jade quintessence and forcibly increase his chance of success.

Although this method was extremely wasteful, time was the most precious commodity to him.

He didn't immediately start refining the Fivefade Void Pill. First, he refined some ordinary pills. This was to familiarize himself with the techniques again and also to preheat the Cosmic Melting Furnace. This would provide the best conditions for refining.

This Cosmic Melting Furnace was also one of the main reasons Lin Ming dared to refine the Fivefade Void Pill. As a quasi-Saint artifact, the Cosmic Melting Furnace could increase the chances of successfully refining the pill by 20-30%.

After concocting three pills in the furnace, Lin Ming took out all the materials required to refine the Fivefade Void Pill from his spatial ring. He then activated the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array, and with a flick of his hand, a wisp of the Burning Star Flame flew into the Cosmic Melting Furnace.

The Burning Star Flame was a reward he acquired from Timeworn Phoenix City. It was considered a good Flame Essence even within the Realm of the Gods and its effects for alchemy were naturally astounding. It wasn't something that the alchemists of the Sky Spill Continent and their earth-step Flame Essences could compare with.

Of course, while a higher grade Flame Essence was more useful and effective for alchemy, the premise of all this was that one could control it. Otherwise, if the energy fluctuations of the Flame Essence were too strong, then it would be easy to burn the alchemy materials down to ash.

But this was not a problem to Lin Ming. With the Heretical God Seed as well as his extremely high comprehension of the Concept of Fire, he could control the Burning Star Flame with absolute precision.

It was with all these various reasons combined that Lin Ming dared to refine the Fivefade Void Pill.

With another slap of his hand, the skyflower stones were the first material to fly into the Cosmic Melting Furnace. Lin Ming then added the Concept of Burning Heat and a touch of the Concept of Annihilation to the Burning Star Flame. At that point, with the assistance of the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array, it only took several more breaths of time before the hard and inflammable skyflower stones began to burn and melt.

This was a speed that a general alchemist couldn't hope to keep up with.

Next was the dragonspine grass. Dragonspine grass was different from the fire resistant skyflower stones. If the heat was even a trace too much then it would be burnt down to nothing.

Lin Ming controlled the Flame Essence and urged it to weaken. The golden totem engraved on the Heretical God Seed began to blaze with a brilliant light. Underneath the steady flame, the dragonspine grass turned into green droplets.

Underneath Lin Ming's control, the two different liquids merged together, becoming a crystal clear whole.

Chapter 792 – The Gate of Wonder

The direction reagent had already been prepared. Lin Ming then took out the wood spirit jade quintessence. This quail egg-sized jade quintessence was actually several times heavier than gold. At such a small size it was already one jin and three taels.

Lin Ming flicked his fingers and the wood spirit jade quintessence flew into the Cosmic Melting Furnace.

Wood spirit jade was extremely resistant to high temperatures. The older wood spirit jade was, the more difficult it was to refine. And wood spirit jade quintessence could even cause a Divine Sea powerhouse to exhaust themselves.

Lin Ming opened the Heretical God Force as well as the Eight Inner Hidden Gates.

Bang!

Within the Cosmic Melting Furnace, the Burning Star Flame suddenly erupted. With a heaven-step Flame Essence as the source, the wood spirit jade quintessence began to slowly heat up.

“Concept of Burning Heat, Law of Annihilation!”

True essence rapidly revolved within Lin Ming. The totem mark on the Heretical God Seed began to shine with the radiant light of the Laws.

The Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array fiercely shook. Fire-attribute origin energy twisted into a vortex within the chamber, and the top quality fire-attribute true essence stones began to rapidly lose their shine before they cracked underneath the intense flow of energy and turned into ash.

In such a terrifying convection of heat, the wood spirit jade quintessence began to soften after a quarter hour. Quietly, it began to melt.

A drop of shimmering golden liquid wood spirit jade dropped into the directing reagents. Lin Ming's entire forehead was beaded with sweat as his mental concentration reached the peak.

Another jin of 500,000 year wood spirit jade was tossed into the Cosmic Melting Furnace. This time, the wood spirit jade quickly melted, forming a thick viscous green wood spirit jade liquid that wrapped all the medicinal materials within.

Liquid wood spirit jade made for an ideal medium buffer for alchemy. The inherent rich and pure wood-attribute origin energy within could nourish the medicinal materials and it could also prevent the flames from overheating and burning the medicine. Thus, this would be able to greatly enhance the chances of success in concocting a pill.

The directing reagents had already taken form. And with the wood spirit jade liquid as a buffer, Lin Ming then tossed the Void Temper Root and the Five Color Fruit into the Cosmic Melting

Furnace, prepared to let them melt within the temperature-consistent wood spirit jade liquid.

Chi!

With a light sound, the Void Temper Root and the Five Color Fruit fiercely shook. Lin Ming's heart tightly gripped. Even though his soul force had vacillated just the tiniest bit, just that had caused the Five Color Fruit and the Void Temper Root to nearly be destroyed. Luckily, the excess energy was absorbed by the wood spirit jade quintessence fluid, otherwise Lin Ming would have failed here.

Using one jin and three taels of wood spirit jade quintessence to refine a Fivefade Void Pill was an extravagant waste, but it was truly worth it at this moment.

Three quarters of an hour passed. Lin Ming's clothes were completely soaked in sweat.

When an alchemist was concocting pills, they required an extremely high degree of spiritual concentration, constantly sensing and controlling the raw materials in the furnace. In this situation, there would be an exorbitant consumption of soul force. If one didn't have a powerful soul force then they could forget about ever becoming an alchemist.

Lin Ming's soul force and willpower far exceeded all other martial artists' at his level. But even so, refining such a high level pill was still difficult.

Two hours...

Four hours...

Six hours...

Blue veins on Lin Ming's forehead bulged upwards like worms. Because he had overdrawn his soul force to a high degree, his entire face was stark white and his lips were beginning to turn blue.

Still, as long as he could persist, overdrawing his soul force like this would be greatly beneficial to the future growth of his soul force.

Every time he completely exhausted his soul force and had to dig out further potential from the depths of his body, this would allow his soul force to reach higher realms. This was also one of the reasons that Demonshine wanted Lin Ming to study alchemy.

After a full eight hours passed, every alchemy material was tossed into the pill furnace, thoroughly fusing together. But at this time, Lin Ming's eyes were bloodshot; he had overdrafted his soul force to the limit.

This was the last step of forming the pill and also the easiest phase to fail at. Although Lin Ming had the wood spirit jade quintessence to form a buffer as well as the Cosmic Melting

Furnace, Burning Star Flame, Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array, and other such favorable conditions to help him, Lin Ming's time spent practicing alchemy was still far too short. Also, his alchemy practice had been focused on specifically training for refining the Fivefade Void Pill so his alchemy foundation was far too weak. It was actually uncertain whether or not he would be successful.

If he failed here then he wouldn't have the materials for a second attempt.

After another hour passed, the Cosmic Melting Furnace began to slowly spin around as it emitted clarion cries from its center. A fragrant medicine smell began to fill the air.

Lin Ming's spiritual concentration had reached unprecedented heights. He continuously formed seals with his hand, using the Heretical God Seed to steady the Burning Star Flame's temperature as much as possible. With his perception he was able to see that the medicinal liquid within the pill furnace had begun to contract in on itself and the wood spirit jade essence was completely gathering together in forming the Fivefade Void Pill.

Lin Ming suppressed the aching headaches that followed overdrawing his soul force. He used a hand and withdrew a light green jade box from his spatial ring. This jade box was only three or four inches wide and it was actually carved from wood spirit jade.

This jade box had an extremely rich wood-attribute origin energy. It could ensure that a pill's medicinal efficacy wouldn't fade for a very long time; even retaining its perfect form for

several years wasn't a problem. This was the best storage vessel for a pill. Of course, it was always extremely expensive so it was specifically used for high level pills.

Peng!

The Cosmic Melting Furnace's lid popped up without a sign. With a faint humming sound, a fist-sized ball of light shout out from within. At the center of this light was a thumb-sized pill that shined with five different splendorous colors. It glowed like a radiant sun with and emitted intense waves of energy.

After the pill appeared it didn't stop rising. It quickly flew up as if it wanted to break out of the stone walls and escape.

Lin Ming had already expected this and had arranged an array formation around the Cosmic Array Formation. A high level pill had its own spiritual sense. After the furnace was opened, it would attempt to flee. If he really allowed this pill that he had used all of his effort to refine to suddenly escape then that would be the greatest joke of all.

Bang!

The Fivefade Void Pill smashed into the array formation's walls, causing it to shake. However, it didn't manage to break through the array.

After the first attempt failed, the Fivefade Void Pill shined even

brighter as if it were readying itself to make a second impact. But how could Lin Ming allow it to do as it wished? He quickly stepped on Golden Roc Shattering the Void and grabbed the Fivefade Void Pill in his hand. Then, he formed several dozen seals with his other hand and sealed the pill into the wood spirit jade box.

After finishing this, Lin Ming fell straight down from the air as if he had lost all of his strength.

With shivering fingers, Lin Ming took out a soul recovery pill from his spatial ring. He only felt as if his eyelids had been replaced by lead and his surroundings seemed to go blurry. Then, he fell asleep as everything turned to darkness.

....

After an unknown period of time, Lin Ming's fingers began to move slightly. He opened both of his eyes and saw only the pitch black of the cave. There were some left over wood-attribute true essence stones scattered on the floor, emitting a glowing green light. In the dark, it seemed exceptionally beautiful.

“How long have I been asleep?”

“Seven days!” Demonshine's voice sounded out in Lin Ming's mind.

Seven days...

Lin Ming sat up, his head throbbing. As he examined his spiritual sea, he saw that his soul force really had grown a bit. And the azure spear-shaped battle spirit that floated in the skies above his spiritual sea seemed to glow even brighter, as if it had become more formidable.

When Lin Ming had first become an inscription master and completed his first medicinal inscription symbol, he had rested for several days after. The reason had also been that he had overdrawn his soul force. Once the inscription had been completed, his mind had relaxed and he directly fell into a deep slumber.

Now, even though his soul force had risen, he had encountered the same situation because the rank of pills he concocted was even higher. Lin Ming couldn't help but sigh with emotion.

He had obtained the Magic Cube when he was just 15 years old. Now nearly seven years had passed. In these seven years, his strength had gone through heaven-shaking upheavals. As he recalled the trials and tribulations he encountered on his road of martial artists, he couldn't help but reminisce.

Lin Ming stashed away the Cosmic Melting Furnace and sat on the roughly carved stone bed. Then, he entered the ethereal martial intent state and began to meditate.

As he cycled the true essence in his body, he found that the Revolving Core crystal nucleus in his dantian had grown even more. He was getting that much closer to the peak of the late Revolving Core.

After breaking through to the late Revolving Core, Lin Ming's cultivation hadn't rapidly risen at all. In half a year he still hadn't managed to break through to the peak of the late Revolving Core. This was because after having had his cultivation shoot up with astronomical speed, he now required time to solidify his foundation, accumulating strength so he could prepare to pass through Life Destruction.

Although the Life Destruction realm was within the Revolving Core realm, it was still considered an entire large boundary over. Breaking through this bottleneck wouldn't be easy at all.

He used two hours to restore his mental state and physical condition to their peak.

Then, Lin Ming pulled out the recently refined Fivefade Void Pill.

"Lin Ming, do you plan on opening the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates now?"

"Yes. I must increase my strength as soon as possible. The earlier I absorb this pill, the more beneficial it will be to my cultivation and ability to resist my enemies."

He opened the wood spirit jade box and unraveled the seals. The thumb-sized five colored pill tumbled into his hands. This pill looked small but it was actually extremely heavy; it weighed nearly two jin. This was because it had partially formed from the melted essence of the wood spirit jade quintessence.

Lin Ming opened his mouth and swallowed the pill. He immediately felt a burst of coolness from his throat and reaching down to his stomach, gradually becoming a faint burning sensation.

Compared to the blue Nameless Divine Pill that he had taken in the past, the Fivefade Void Pill's side effects were much more mild and temperate. But, the time it would take to process it was also much longer. Lin Ming put away the jade box and closed his eyes, entering into the ethereal martial intent as he began to revolve the 'True Primal Chaos Formula'.

For the past seven years, because of his diligent training, Lin Ming's understanding of the 'True Primal Chaos Formula' had steadily increased. Now he had full confidence that he could record at least half of the 'True Primal Chaos Formula's' heart mantra into a jade slip so that others could train with it.

Within the Realm of the Gods, there weren't many types of body transformation law formulas. This was because there were far fewer people that trained in the body transformation system as opposed to the essence gathering system.

The 'True Primal Chaos Formula' was a superior top level body transformation law formula, and one of its greatest advantages was that it wasn't difficult to practice at all.

At this time, Lin Ming could already clearly see faint traces of multi-hued energy flowing and mixing into his meridians and

penetrating into his limbs and bones, fusing into his body. This was his final preparation for breaking through to the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates.

The third gate was called the Gate of Wonder.

After one reached the second stage of body transformation, every time one of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates was opened, one would obtain a greater strength. At the same time, every gate corresponded to obtaining a special ability.

For instance, the first gate, the Gate of Healing, was located at the point between the clavicles. After opening this gate, besides a martial artist's overall strength rising, it would also greatly enhance their endurance and recovery ability.

For the second gate, the Gate of Limit, that was located at the spine: the area called the dragon bone. Opening this gate would increase one's balance and explosive force.

As for the third gate, the Gate of Wonder, that was located at the two knees. Opening this gate would increase a martial artist's strength, and the special ability it granted was to greatly increase a martial artist's speed.

Chapter 793 – Sky High Reward

Three days later, a loud explosion rang out as the stone bed Lin Ming sat on completely collapsed underneath him. All of the top grade true essence stones in the chamber disintegrated, turning into fine powder.

Lin Ming stood up from the heap of rubble and casually dusted his hands and feet. His limbs emitted a crackling ‘ka ka ka’ noise and sounded as if tofu was currently being fried.

He had finally opened the Gate of Wonder!

The Gate of Wonder had the effect of an overall increase in speed and instant acceleration. This differed from the Gate of Healing, which managed endurance and restorative ability, and the Gate of Limit, which handled balance, coordinated strength, and explosive force.

This newly opened gate would be able to increase one’s combat effectiveness far more directly than the first two gates.

Speed was one of the most important factors of a martial artist’s comprehensive combat strength. It was far more straightforward than endurance, recovery ability, or explosive force!

Speed was undoubtedly important in evading and chasing. It would also greatly increase a martial artist’s attack strength.

As the old saying went, speed was insurmountable. A martial artist's own speed could superimpose on the speed of their own attacks. If their attacks were fast enough, then even a tiny stone rock could easily pierce through the body. If Lin Ming poured his battle spirit into his attacks as the foundation, then the resulting power would be even more terrifying.

Lin Ming left the cave, sealing the entrance on his way out. He then jumped into the sky.

Bang!

The rocks underneath his feet shattered into bits and pieces as he ascended up into the air like a rocket. In an instant, he became an azure beam of light that shot across the endless sky, traversing several miles in the blink of an eye.

Strong heavenly winds bombarded him, sending his hair erratically dancing in the wind. As he felt himself reaching such extreme speeds, Lin Ming was elated beyond measure; the extreme velocity of the Gate of Wonder completely surpassing his imagination. If he was already this fast by only relying on his true essence and the Gate of Wonder, then how fast would he be if he also used his movement technique?

As the thought crossed his mind, Lin Ming stepped upon 'Golden Roc Shattering the Void'. His steps became blurry as the space shrank beneath his feet. In a single step, he crossed five or six miles, as the grand mountains that rose thousands of feet into the air were easily crossed over by Lin Ming.

When the Gate of Wonder was combined with ‘Golden Roc Shattering the Void’, Lin Ming’s speed limit was several times faster than it was before. This speed was so fast even difficult for him to control.

“If I attack in this state...”

Lin Ming’s mind stirred. The red spear appeared in his hands as both the Concepts of Thunder and Fire wove together while he poured his large success bronze battle spirit into his attack.

Penetrating Rainbow!

Woosh!

A brilliant spear light flashed across the skies like a ray of sunlight. Lin Ming had completely fused himself into this light, becoming one with his spear. He then disappeared like a meteor crossing the horizon.

When he reappeared, Lin Ming had already travelled a dozen miles in the void. He came across a massive canyon and thrust his spear into the 10,000 foot high cliffs.

Bang!

Lin Ming pierced the cliffside like tofu, penetrating all the way

until he poked out from the other side!

Lin Ming's spear move was founded on the limits of his speed, along with the dual Concepts of Thunder and Fire, and the keenness of his battle spirit. With such a combination, even the cliff side that had been strengthened by a baptism of being near the Sea of Miracles had been pierced through by Lin Ming's spear.

Rustle...

After Lin Ming soared out from the hole several feet wide that he had left in the middle of the mountain cliff, a great puff of stone powder plumed from within. Underneath the Concept of Fire's Law of Annihilation, the crushed stones turned into dust, blowing and dancing into the wind. For a while, the entire cliff canyon was covered in a faint hazy dust cloud.

"My strength has increased yet again after opening the third of the Eight Inner Hidden Gates. If I were to encounter Corpsemancer now, I should be able to defeat him far more easily than in the past!"

As Lin Ming thought this, he flew away from the barren and desolate land that he was currently at and towards the city.

He needed to enter the city to purchase a few heavenly materials in order to continuous practicing and perfecting his alchemy technique. Lin Ming also had to begin making the final preparations to impact the Life Destruction realm.

However, as he thought of purchasing heavenly materials, Lin Ming suddenly thought of a very depressing and dispiriting matter. That was....he didn't have any spirit essence stones.

Lin Ming had many treasures on him, such as the Cosmic Melting Furnace, his Demon Emperor Armor, the heaven-step Demon God Bone, and the Concept jade slip that Fairy Feng had left to him. However, it was impossible for him to exchange any of those things for spirit essence stones. None of his other remaining possessions were too valuable either.

When Lin Ming killed Xuan Wuji and the Polar Skysplit Tower master, he had managed to accumulate a good deal of wealth. Relative to his current level, however, all of that wealth was close to nothing at all. Besides, he had already spent most of it anyways.

Now, besides a few heaven-strep treasures left on him, all of his other belongings combined wouldn't even surpass 5000 spirit essence stones.

That was roughly equal to the net worth of an ordinary second stage Life Destruction powerhouse from the four Divine Kingdoms.

All of the spirit essence stones that he once had were completely used up while practicing alchemy without a single return.

Lin Ming considered relying on his alchemy technique to make money, but then decided that it would simply waste too much time. The only reason that he had managed to concoct the Fivefade Void Pill in less than half a year was because he had practiced

without caution or care of burning through any of his materials. Only by freely spending all sorts of precious and materials in his practice had he been able to forcefully raise his skill at alchemy.

This sort of practice method would only burn money; it was impossible for him to ever make money.

.....

Skyflower Province, Blue Cloud City –

Skyflower Province was the smallest of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom’s nine provinces. However, its prosperity and success was second to only the Central Province. All of the major forces had gathered here within the Skyflower Province’s capital, Blue Cloud City, which was also the headquarters of the Hundred Treasures Auction House. In every square, there were countless treasure pavilions and medicinal pill shops. This city could even be called as being paved with gold.

The majority of the young martial artists strolling down the streets were all outstanding individuals. There were many of them that had reached the Xiantian realm at 20 some years of age and the Revolving Core realm by 30 some years of age.

If this were the South Horizon Region, these individuals could all be called the direct disciples of a large sect.

At the very center of Blue Cloud City was a crowded and bustling

restaurant with people flowing in and out. Because this restaurant was close to a large auction house, most of the customers here were martial artists.

Lin Ming wore his wood spirit jade mask and casually sat in a corner of the restaurant as he ordered a few small dishes of various vicious beast meats and spirit vegetables. He lifted the corner of his wood spirit mask and ate at a moderate pace.

At this time, a conversation that several martial artists were having suddenly caught his attention.

“Have you heard of that uproarious news that came out about Lin Lanjian a few days ago?” A 30-40 year old man with a cherry red face said as he took big gulps of wine.

“Who doesn’t know him? With his late Revolving Core cultivation, he was able to kill Corpsemancer and rank on the Destiny Decree. He was named an eternally rare talent!” A big fellow’s words immediately attracted a laugh from all the martial artists around him. He looked back at the drinking man and said, “Are you a foreigner here?”

“Hehe, that’s not what I’m talking about. I’m talking about the most recent news to come out.” The drinking man cleared his throat, gathering everyone’s attention to him. Then, with an air of self-importance he said, “Lin Lanjian’s cultivation method was confirmed to have been stolen from the Asura Divine Kingdom. Additionally, the armor he wore is a sacred treasure of the Asura Divine Kingdom. They had thought that it was lost a long time ago, but it had actually fallen into Lin Lanjian’s hands!”

“What!? Lin Lanjian stole his cultivation method from the Asura Divine Kingdom? Are you sure of this?” The surrounding martial artists were shocked. This was a major event. Whether it was a sect or a Divine Kingdom, their most important treasures were their inheritances. Once these inheritances were leaked to the outside world, then this would cause their very foundation to shake!

This was a matter that any Holy Land or Divine Kingdom would absolutely never tolerate. Thus, to any person that stole their cultivation, there was only a single judgement for them.

That was – death!

“This is absolutely true. It’s said that Lin Lanjian or his master killed some important person from the Asura Divine Kingdom and stole away their spatial ring. This spatial ring contained the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ jade slip!”

“So it’s like that!”

All the surrounding martial artists seemed to believe this, even if just a little. Since the Asura Divine Kingdom said that Lin Lanjian’s cultivation method was stolen from them, then there must be some similarities between Lin Lanjian’s cultivation method and their own. It was impossible for them to make up stories about this sort of matter. Otherwise, if Lin Lanjian’s cultivation method was completely different from the Asura Divine Kingdom’s ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’, then these rumors would collapse in on themselves after being proven false.

The ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ was a secret inheritance of the Asura Divine Kingdom. No matter how powerful Lin Lanjian or his master was, it would be impossible for them to break into the vaults of the Asura Divine Kingdom and steal away their inheritance. Thus, the only other explanation was that they killed a direct descendent of the Asura Divine Kingdom and then obtained a jade slip of the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’.

Although many martial artists also wanted to do this, this was simply a disgraceful and shameful matter once exposed. Now, all of the present martial artists felt that there was something questionable about Lin Lanjian’s morals. It was likely that he was a corrupt and underhanded individual.

In fact, the majority of martial artists believed this. At least, most of those in this restaurant believed this.

“What’s the deal with that armor that Lin Lanjian wears?” Another martial artist continued to ask.

“That is the Demon Emperor Armor. The Asura Divine Kingdom already has the Demon Emperor Armor’s heartguard mirror, which happens to completely match with Lin Lanjian’s armor! The armor has already been lost for countless years by now, and to think that it actually appeared with Lin Lanjian! There’s definitely some problem with this Lin Lanjian!”

All of the martial artist’s discussion fell into Lin Ming’s ears. He calmly listened the entire time as he slowly ate his food. The Asura

Divine Kingdom's actions were far more shameless than he had imagined they would be. They had released such rumors in order to galvanize more people into looking for him. Another reason for such rumors was to make up some self-righteous reason to take away his belongings.

The general public was much more likely to believe a Divine Kingdom with a 'long and glorious inheritance' than they were to believe a lone and unknown martial artist like Lin Ming. After all, the idea that the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' and the 'Demon Emperor Armor' belonged to the Asura Divine Kingdom had already deeply rooted itself into the hearts of the people.

"It looks like the Asura Divine Kingdom has already set their eyes on me. They should have posted some bounty on my head."

Lin Ming sarcastically smiled as he downed a glass of wine.

The words of the surrounding martial artists indeed confirmed Lin Ming's suspicions.

"The Asura Divine Kingdom would never tolerate for something like this to continue. That Lin Lanjian is really in for it this time."

"Of course. The warrant for his arrest had already been sent out; it should be posted any time now. It is said that the Asura Divine Kingdom will reward 100,000 spirit essence stones for anyone that can give them clues to Lin Lanjian's whereabouts. If one can capture Lin Lanjian alive, then they will give them a sky high reward of 300,000 spirit essence stones, top quality pills, and even

a peak medium-grade heaven-step treasure!”

The big fellow’s words sent the hearts of all the martial artists present rapidly fluttering. While it was naturally impossible for them to even think about capturing Lin Lanjian alive, there was a small possibility of providing a clue.

100,000 spirit essence stones! This was an unimaginable amount. It had to be known that a slightly less influential Prince, whose cultivation had yet to reach Life Destruction, would only have a total wealth of 40,000-50,000 spirit essence stones.

If they could obtain this amount of wealth, then they could buy up any amount of pills to boost their cultivation. If they lucked out and managed to break through to the second or third stage of Life Destruction, then they could even enjoy at least two thousand years of life.

Chapter 794 – Asura Divine Kingdom

Branch Division

The temptation of the posted reward was simply too great. Many people wished that they could dig 30 feet underneath themselves to look for Lin Ming, and some dreamed of the luxurious life they could live after obtaining so many spirit essence stones.

At this point, a burst of laughter was emitted in the restaurant hall. The crowd turned to see that in a corner of the hall there was a martial artist wearing a black bamboo hat who was pouring himself a drink. There was a four foot long sword placed on his table.

The martial artist didn't look too old, but the fierce spirit he emitted was menacing.

He looked at the big fellow who was spreading the news and said, "Friend, did you say that there was a 300,000 spirit essence stone reward for capturing Lin Lanjian alive, as well as a top-grade pill and a peak medium-grade heaven step treasure? Then, let me ask you, just what sort of top quality pill and what sort of peak medium-grade heaven-step treasure are they?"

The black bamboo hat martial artist's words left everyone astonished. According to his meaning, it was as if he really planned on capturing Lin Lanjian alive. All of the other martial artists here hoped at most to be able to find some clues on Lin Lanjian that would lead to his capture; no one dared to possibly think of capturing him alive. After all, Lin Lanjian was a Destiny Decree master – he could use just his finger to stab them to death.

“It is the God Transforming Pill!”

The big fellow seemed to know a lot of inside information. Lin Ming even suspected that he was one of the Asura Divine Kingdom’s intelligence agents that was specifically responsible for disseminating this news.

“God Transforming Pill?”

As the pill was named, most of the martial artists present had a confused expression, obviously never having heard of it before. However, some of the more knowledgeable martial artists’ eyes widened, an expression of terrible shock flitting through their faces.

“A God Transforming Pill can help a high stage Life Destruction powerhouse attack the Divine Sea. Of course, one can also use it during the lower stages of Life Destruction to solidify their true essence and strengthen themselves to create a better foundation for breaking through to the Divine Sea in the future. But that second method is definitely more wasteful.”

“This is a pill that a top 50 ranked master of the Destiny Decree would go mad with jealousy over. Because swallowing one will greatly increase one’s chances of reaching the Divine Sea, it is thus named the God Transforming Pill!

The big fellow explained with boisterous and flourishing gestures.

This explanation caused all the present martial artists to suck in a deep breath of cold air. This item might not be any less valuable than 300,000 spirit essence stones. In fact, its worth was probably even higher!

Lin Ming drank some wine and pulled his jade spirit mask back down to block his wide taunting sneer. The Asura Divine Kingdom truly had laid down the requisite capital. Even he wanted to report himself.

However, this was also reasonable. Whether it was the deep level inheritance of the ‘Great Desolate Halberd Art’ or the Demon Emperor Armor, both of them were legacy treasures that could drive the royal family insane.

“God Transforming Pill... if I can obtain that, it can help rapidly increase my strength after I reach Life Destruction.”

“So it was the God Transforming Pill... good, good, good!” The bamboo hat martial artist bellowed out three ‘goods’ in a row, as if the God Transforming Pill had been specifically prepared for him. This caused all the other martial artists to feel extremely unhappy. This sort of pill was something that they could never ever dream of reaching, and yet this fellow seemed as if it were easily obtainable for him.

“What are you so happy about? It’s as if you think the pill is already yours. You are just far too arrogant. Even if you found Lin Lanjian, do you even think you could capture him alive?”

A martial artist bluntly said. After all, Destiny Decree martial artists weren't some random cabbage off the streets. There were only 360 of them within the entire Sky Spill Continent. In addition, because of others that weren't listed for various reasons, there were about 500 individuals of that approximate level in total.

All of these people were scattered over the incomparably broad continent. However, most of them were concentrated in the four Divine Kingdoms, their various homelands, and headquarters of super sects. He didn't believe that he would randomly bump into a Destiny Decree master in this restaurant.

That would make a Destiny Decree master far too cheap.

“Lin Lanjian managed to rank on the Destiny Decree at an extraordinarily young age. After several more months pass his cultivation might grow again.”

“Defeating a master is difficult, killing a master is even harder, and as for capturing one alive, that is another level of trouble altogether. If you want to capture Lin Lanjian alive then you need to be ranked at least 270-280 on the Destiny Decree. That is equal to being a sixth stage Life Destruction master. Do you think you have that strength?”

As someone spoke up first, several other martial artist also chorused in agreement. Many of them weren't feeling so swell about this bamboo hat martial artist to begin with. Did he really think he was so awesome?

As the bamboo hat martial artist faced all of the surrounding martial artists' suspicions and doubts, he only sneered in response, not bothering to respond to them and instead only lazily scratching his chin.

At this time, the big fellow's eyes turned and he asked, "May I ask what your honored name is?"

"Misty Stream Sect, Yan Junxuan!" The bamboo hat martial artist turned his head so that people could finally see his face. He was a very handsome individual, his looks marred only by a scar that flowed down the corner of an eye.

To a high level martial artist, repairing a scar was nothing at all. If a martial artist still had a scar on their face then it was likely intentionally left behind. This scar likely reminded this man of a shameful defeat he had suffered in the past. This proved that the number of times he had been defeated before was also very small. Perhaps it might have only been one or two times, otherwise his face and body would have already been covered with scars.

This sort of person was undoubtedly an astounding young elite.

"I see, so it is the Misty Stream Sect's Yan Junxuan. It's an honor, an honor!" The big fellow cupped his fists together and quickly bowed. Yan Junxuan was over 30 years old and his strength was far from being able to rank on the Destiny Decree. However, he represented the Misty Stream Sect, and the Misty Stream Sect had two Destiny Decree masters guarding the sect that

ranked 300 and above. For a sect to have one or two Destiny Decree masters, that was already the highest sect underneath the rank of Holy Land.

Of course, this sort of person may be ranked on the Destiny Decree but their rank wouldn't be too high. All of the high ranking Destiny Decree masters belonged to various Holy Lands or the four Divine Kingdoms.

Although the two Destiny Decree masters of the Misty Stream Sect weren't ranked too high, they were actually proficient in trap arrays. Once one was caught within, they wouldn't be able to make their way out for several months. If they combined forces then there was a very high chance of capturing Lin Lanjian alive.

As the big fellow thought of this he said, "Brother Yan, at the border frontier of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom where the Jagged Slope Mountain is, there is a branch division of my Asura Divine Kingdom. If Brother Yan and your masters are interested then you may come to visit. My Asura Divine Kingdom also has three Sir Demon Envoys personally commanding the area and we can put out enough sincerity so that you can help us search for that dastardly Lin Lanjian and recover the inheritance of the Asura Divine Kingdom!"

As the big fellow spoke to here, his identity had already become apparent. He was obviously an intelligence agent sent out by the Asura Divine Kingdom to search for Lin Ming. After all, this was still the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's domain; he would have to be a bit discreet in his actions here. Also, it was impossible for the Asura Divine Kingdom to send their own martial artists to carry

out such a search in the lands of another Divine Kingdom. They could only draw support from the local strength in the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom.

“Oh? Three Sir Demon Envoys!” Although Yan Junxuan was arrogant, he was still startled upon hearing the title of Demon Envoy. For someone to be given the title of Demon Envoy basically meant that they were a top 100 ranked master of the Destiny Decree!

The further one went up the Destiny Decree, the greater the disparity in strength was between the martial artists there. In particular, there were several great milestones at rank 300, 200, 100, 50, 30 and 10 – all of those were massive jumps in strength.

A top 100 ranked master was on a completely different level from a top 300 ranked master.

“Hehe, if there are any clues found about Lin Lanjian and the Sir Demon Envoys personally take action, then that is already the same as capturing him.” The big fellow said with a hint of pride.

“Indeed.” Yan Junxuan nodded in acknowledgement, “They could even instantly kill him too.”

“Very well Brother Yan, the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division’s location is at the east end of the Jagged Slope Mountains, 30 miles southwest from Sloping Lake. I hope that Brother Yan and your masters will be able to visit sometime.” The big fellow didn’t conceal the existence of the Asura Divine

Kingdom Branch Division as there was no need to; the existence of this branch division was not a secret. Jagged Slope Mountain was not part of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom's territory in any case, and the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division also had three Demon Envoys personally on garrison duty – absolute safety was ensured.

“Great!” Yan Junxuan readily agreed.

In a corner of the hall, Lin Ming quietly left a high-grade true essence stone on the table before slipping out of the restaurant.

No one imagined that the young man who just left was the bounty target of 300,000 spirit essence stones, a peak medium-grade heaven-step treasure, and a God Transforming Pill.

‘Jagged Slope Mountain, Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division, three Demon Envoys... how interesting... that big fellow said that the Asura Divine Kingdom had put out enough ‘sincerity’, I wonder just what that is?’

The so-called ‘sincerity’ was most likely the posted reward. To directly put the reward out would have the greatest visual impact. If one just solely made a promised reward then one couldn't help but worry that the other party wouldn't honor their bounty reward at the time.

“Hm, this Jagged Slope Mountain Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division, I too want to go and join in on the fun.”

As Lin Ming thought of this, his feet moved and he quickly flew away from Blue Cloud City.

Jagged Slope Mountain was located at the border frontier of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. It stretched for 4000-5000 feet and the highest point shot up 40,000-50,000 feet into the sky, directly stabbing into the skies.

Here, because there were plenty of rich spirit veins, there were several small martial arts family clans that occupied their own little territories. Of course, the spirit veins they occupied were of a far lower rank than the one lorded over by the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division.

Lin Ming fell down in a beam of light. He stood on a 30,000 feet snowy mountain peak and surveyed the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch that lay a few hundred miles away. “A superior fifth-grade spirit vein, how luxurious!”

For a mere branch division to occupy a superior fifth-grade spirit vein, the legacy of the Divine Kingdom was something that a sect like the South Sea Demon Region could never compete with. It had been said that the Silent Demon Emperor City had also possessed a top ranked spirit vein. However, when the Silent Demon Emperor City was destroyed, several Divine Sea Supreme Elders had used their mighty supernatural powers to shift it away.

“The central lands of the Sky Spill Continent were rich with resources to begin with. And when combined with plundering the surrounding lands for tens of thousands of years, the outer areas of the Sky Spill Continent seem like completely different lands.

“Perhaps the reason the central lands of the Sky Spill Continent are so rich in resources is because of the Sea of Miracles?” Lin Ming suddenly thought of this. This was a true possibility. Otherwise, why would all four Divine Kingdoms revolve around the Sea of Miracles?

“I wonder just what sort of secrets the Sea of Miracles and the Eternal Demon Abyss hold within them.”

As Lin Ming stood on the snowy peak, he saw several black spots rapidly approaching from a distance. These black spots quickly became larger, revealing themselves to be spirit boats that were hundreds of feet long. These spirit boats were being pulled by several flying vicious beasts, all of them headed towards the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division.

And behind these spirit boats, there were also several multi-colored ray of lights cutting through the horizon. These were Revolving Core and Life Destruction masters that were flying forwards.

“It looks like the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division invited many people over.”

Lin Ming leapt down from the snowy mountain peak and stepped on Golden Roc Shattering the Void, leisurely strolling in the air towards the Asura Divine Kingdom.

“I wonder just what sort of sincerity the Asura Divine Kingdom

has put forth. My finances have been pretty tight recently. If I could seize this opportunity to grab everything here then that would be perfect.”

As Lin Ming thought of this, he sped up.

Chapter 795 – 300,000 Spirit Essence Stones

The Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division was located on the back of a 30,000 foot high snowy mountain range. The branch division started halfway up the mountainside and built upwards toward the mountain peak. Here, there was plentiful heaven and earth origin energy. With the support of the array formations, various luscious spirit trees and spirit plants grew in maddening luxury, with countless marvelous spirit flowers and spirit grass. And in the higher areas there were snowy peaks capped with white ice that hadn't melted for tens of thousands of years. With these two divergent scenes placed together, it was indeed beautiful to behold.

The Asura Divine Kingdom's architectural style was borrowed from the ancient times. Many buildings here were formed from pure black obsidian, giving off a very heavy feeling.

Lin Ming landed down early and walked right towards the outside of the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division's entrance.

“Halt! Identify yourself!”

Two tall guards blocked Lin Ming's path.

“I am a martial artist of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom. I heard that the Divine Kingdom's branch division is offering a generous bounty to any martial artist that can capture the evil man who stole their Divine Kingdom's inheritance. I've come to gain a more specific understanding of the situation.”

The two guards looked Lin Ming up and down. Although his late Revolving Core cultivation wasn't too high, it was still pretty decent when compared relative to his young age. They estimated he came from some formidable influence.

If the Asura Divine Kingdom wished to capture Lin Ming within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom they would have to depend on the local powers of that area. For martial artists like Lin Ming who seemed as if they came from local forces, they could be considered as a guest of the Divine Kingdom's branch division.

"Pull your mask down!" A guard said.

Lin Ming didn't hesitate, immediately pulling off his wood spirit jade mask and revealing an exceedingly ordinary face. This was the appearance Lin Ming had taken after using an appearance changing technique.

Back when Lin Ming was in the Seven Profound Martial House, the Deputy House Master Bi Luo had been a master of appearance changing techniques. Not only he could alter his appearance but also copy a person's voice, temperament, and even their aura. When Lin Ming had strayed into the Southern Wilderness, that was all because Bi Luo had changed into Qin Ziya's appearance without Lin Ming even noticing.

Afterwards, when large scale beast tides erupted throughout the entire Divine Phoenix Province, Lin Ming had rushed to Green Mulberry City to assist them. Bi Luo had been lying in wait there to

assassinate Lin Ming, but the end result was that he had been killed by Lin Ming instead with the dreamland enchantment. Bi Luo's special appearance changing technique had also fallen into Lin Ming's hands.

It wasn't known just which ancient ruins this appearance changing technique had originated from, but the rank was quite decent. Although it couldn't be considered too profound an appearance changing technique to the current Lin Ming, it was still more than enough to fool two guards with lower cultivation.

“You may enter.”

The guards didn't doubt him. If they really did examine him then it would be easy to discover that there was something off with his appearance. The Asura Divine Kingdom definitely had methods to do this. However, the key was that they never imagined Lin Ming would willingly enter into their Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division.

To him, this was the lair of the tiger. There were three top 100 ranked Destiny Decree masters personally guarding this area as well as several other Destiny Decree masters in attendance. These Destiny Decree masters had come from the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, Sublime Smelting Divine Kingdom, and even the Seven Star Divine Kingdom, all of them various heroic elites that had come to capture Lin Ming alive.

Coming here to cause trouble was simply a death wish. Moreover, this area had the support of the Asura Divine Kingdom. Anyone coming here first had to overcome the tremendous hurdle

of the Asura Divine Kingdom's name.

After Lin Ming passed through the entrance, he placed his wood spirit jade mask back on again. There were many masters present in this branch division; he didn't believe that his crude appearance changing technique would be able to fool all of them.

As he walked forwards, Lin Ming's steps were extremely slow. He looked around and observed the array formations laid down in the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division. All of these were defensive array formations mostly designed to resist against oncoming enemies. Lin Ming continued observing all the way until he saw the main temple grounds and he finally saw a great large-scale sealing array formation that could cut off everyone inside from the outside.

Once this array formation was activated, it would require some effort to bypass it.

“This sealing formation uses many techniques from the Realm of the Gods. It's extremely clever and the main foundation of this array formation originates from those left behind by the Demon Emperor, such as the array formations used to seal the Eight Dragon Jade Dawn Array and the Demon Emperor's medicine garden... the Asura Divine Kingdom really has inherited a part of the Demon Emperor's legacy.”

Lin Ming mumbled to himself. If this array formation had come from a different school of techniques, then it would require a great deal of effort to break through. But since it came from a similar school of techniques, and especially since Lin Ming had a much

clearer understanding of the Demon Emperor's array formation techniques, it didn't take him too long to completely see through this array formation. He had full confidence that he would be able to leave once it was activated.

“There shouldn't be a problem with my escape path.”

As Lin Ming thought like this, he stepped into the sealing array. Then, from far off, he gradually began to hear the sounds of fighting.

After walking for about an incense stick of time, Lin Ming finally arrived at a great hall. This great hall was entirely black and was shaped like a pagoda. In front of this great hall was an open square and many martial artists were already gathered here.

Most of these martial artists had a cultivation at the Revolving Core realm and above. There were also some Xiantian realm juniors, youths that had likely accompanied their elders to visit here.

These martial artists were all divided into several obvious camps. Every camp had a high stage Life Destruction martial artist leading them. They were clearly from other fifth-grade sects similar to the Misty Stream Sect.

Within the borders of the four Divine Kingdoms, there were numerous fifth-grade sects. They were all led by the four Divine Kingdoms, with a relationship similar to how the Seven Profound Valleys and Divine Phoenix Island were related.

At this time, in the front of the square, two late Revolving Core young martial artists were engaged in a fierce confrontation. Beams of energy smashed into the defensive array, constantly causing brilliant rays of light to shine out. Relative to their age, it was already quite good to be this strong.

The sounds of fighting that Lin Ming had heard before came from here.

‘Why are they fighting?’ Lin Ming was slightly puzzled. He was just about to ask when he noticed that on a high lifted platform not too far from the battlefield, there was actually a box of unknown metal there. This box was open and completely filled with stacks of spirit essence stones.

These were impressively – superior spirit essence stones!

Spirit essence stones were only divided into three ranks – ordinary, superior, and top grade.

Top grade spirit essence stones were the very source of spirit essence stone mines; they had nearly completely vanished from the world. It was considered excellent to produce even a single top grade spirit essence stone from an entire spirit essence stone mine. This was a treasure that even Divine Sea Supreme Elders would struggle over.

As for a superior spirit essence stone, each one had a value equal to 300 ordinary spirit essence stones. Superior spirit essence stones

had an extremely rich origin energy inherent within them; these types of spirit essence stones had a magnificent effect when used for making breakthroughs in cultivation.

When Lin Ming decided to break through to Life Destruction, it would be safer if he could obtain some superior spirit essence stones. During the breakthrough it would help him absorb heaven and earth origin energy faster and also stabilize his cultivation.

‘There are about 1000 superior spirit essence stones in that box. That is probably the 300,000 spirit essence stone reward that the Asura Divine Kingdom promised!’

300,000 spirit essence stones, and those were proportioned into superior spirit essence stones. If he could obtain that then it would be a massive wealth!

Lin Ming was already thinking about how to rob this wealth when he found that in the main hall, not too far away from the high platform, there was a black-clothed middle-aged man meditating with his eyes closed. When he looked more carefully he could see that this man was floating an inch off of the ground – he was actually suspended in the air.

‘Sixth stage Life Destruction!’

The black-clothed middle-aged man didn’t hide his cultivation, he was clearly at the sixth stage of Life Destruction. Combined with his not too old age, he even had a slim chance of reaching the Divine Sea realm!

Without a doubt, this person was one of the Asura Divine Kingdom's three Demon Envoys, a character ranked in the top 100 masters of the Destiny Decree!

And floating beside this black-clothed middle-aged man was a half square foot wood spirit jade box. This jade box was surrounded by layers upon layers of seals and a wild Giant Demon image was carved into the grain of the box. Although Lin Ming couldn't see what was inside, he could already guess what it contained.

That box must contain the God Transforming Pill!

300,000 spirit essence stones and a God Transforming Pill!

Unfortunately, that God Transforming Pill was far too close to the black-clothed middle-aged man. It was extremely unlikely that Lin Ming could hope to steal away that box from such a close range.

'This Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division also has two more Demon Envoys, but they aren't in the vicinity. To send out a Demon Envoy to greet these guests is already giving more than enough face.'

As Lin Ming thought this, he turned towards a 20 some year old youth and casually asked, "Why are those two fighting onstage?"

The youth was originally excitedly watching the battle occurring in front of him and didn't feel too good being disturbed by Lin Ming. He was about to ignore Lin Ming when he saw that Lin Ming's cultivation was at the late Revolving Core realm. Then, he patiently explained, "They are struggling to rank on a talent list. If the Asura Divine Kingdom wishes to use these fifth-grade sects' intelligence networks and connections to search for Lin Lanjian, they naturally have to provide some benefits. Besides posting a bounty reward, they have also promised to cooperate with us in order to cultivate some talents."

The youth pointed towards the high platform. Lin Ming saw that on the high platform, besides the 300,000 ordinary spirit essence stones' worth of superior essence stones, there was also a list. On the list was written the words – superior talent, medium talent, ordinary talent.

There was space left below every rank. It was apparently ready to be filled with names.

As Lin Ming saw these he immediately understood what was happening. Divine Phoenix Island had also once held a similar plan throughout the Divine Phoenix Province – the larger sect would help the smaller sects raise their talent. This wasn't too expensive for the larger sect and the smaller sects actually obtained a great advantage for their future talents. At this time, the young heroic elites were now competing against each other for the title of superior talent.

"What an interesting competition." Lin Ming's lips curved up in a grin. He had come for two reasons today.

The first was to steal, and the second was to mess this place up.

As for provoking the anger of the Asura Divine Kingdom, that was simply a joke. Lin Ming had already been tagged on their kill list anyway. If it wasn't for the fact that so many other heroic young elites were present at the Nine Flowers Banquet, Lin Ming wouldn't have minded killing Situ Chuan and Situ Feng there at all.

At this time, the match onstage had already ended. A short-haired youth holding a saber had won. He laughed out loud and said, "I, Tu Yifeng, will take the title of superior talent!"

As he spoke he leapt onto the high platform and raised a brush, ready to write his own name onto the talent announcement list.

But at this time, a loud jeer spread in the air. "Tu Yifeng, if you want to be ranked first then ask my sword first!"

This rampant voice seemed familiar. Lin Ming glanced around and saw that the bamboo hat youth from the restaurant, Yan Junxuan, was actually here. The one who spoke just now had been him.

It was just that Yan Junxuan had already put his bamboo hat away. The scar still showed at the corner of his eyes, accentuating his arrogant expression.

By Yan Junxuan's side was a old man with long eyebrows. He was wearing gray clothes and his cultivation was at the fifth stage of Life Destruction. It was obvious that he was the Honorable Master that Yan Junxuan spoke of in the restaurant.

‘This old man's fire of life is weak; I guess he's already around 2000 years old. To only be at the fifth stage of Life Destruction at 2000 years of age, he can only be arranged at the end of the Destiny Decree. It's impossible for him to ever make another breakthrough in his road of martial arts. Since their Misty Stream Sect is involving themselves in this matter then they might be thinking of giving that God Transforming Pill to Yan Junxuan. Heh, no wonder that Yan Junxuan was so arrogant in the restaurant, as if the God Transforming Pill had been specifically prepared for him.’

Chapter 796 – Lin Lanjian

Lin Ming silently observed the strength of the current Destiny Decree masters. The conclusion he drew was that besides the three Demon Envoys, the other Destiny Decree martial artists here were extremely ordinary.

“The God Transforming Pill and the 300,000 spirit essence stones are placed apart from each other. The most I’ll be able to grab is just one of them. The God Transforming Pill is too close to the Demon Envoy; I’ll only be able to snatch the spirit essence stones...”

As Lin Ming looked at the box of spirit essence stones on the high platform he discovered that there was actually a small protective array formation surrounding it. There was something like a transparent layer of glass covering the spirit essence stones.

However, this array formation had only been casually laid down. With Lin Ming’s current strength and degree of understanding into array formations, breaking through it wouldn’t be difficult at all.

Bluntly said, this array formation was simply placed there for grandstanding. The Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division would never even dream that someone would openly and blatantly steal from them at their gathering site.

The only one capable of doing so was a top ranked Destiny Decree master, otherwise stealing from here would simply be the same as

a death sentence. But, which ranked Destiny Decree master would dare to provoke the wrath of the Asura Divine Kingdom?

Lin Ming didn't care about any of that. He and the Asura Divine Kingdom had already reached the point of never giving up until the other party had died.

Even if Lin Ming was willing to hand over the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art' and the Demon Emperor Armor, the Asura Divine Kingdom would still chase him down so that he couldn't reveal any secrets to anyone else. They would even use a soul searching technique to confirm whether his cultivation method was true or fake.

Moreover, the main point was that it was impossible for Lin Ming to give away the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'. The Asura Divine Kingdom assumed Lin Ming had obtained some jade slip inheritance, but the truth was that Lin Ming had obtained the memories of the Demon Emperor. If he wanted to engrave the cultivation method manual onto a jade slip then first he would need to completely and thoroughly understand the cultivation method in order to do so.

Otherwise, Lin Ming would have already recorded the 'Heretical God Force' for Qin Xingxuan and Mu Qianyu to train with.

At this point, a loud explosion erupted from the front of the square. Yan Junxuan had sent his opponent flying backwards, vomiting great mouthfuls of blood.

An old man flew out from the crowd, catching that severely wounded young elite and then glowering at Yan Junxuan.

Yan Junxuan appeared unaware of all of this. He only said, “This is a comparison of skill; serious injuries are oftentimes inevitable.”

“Humph!” The old man coldly snorted and fed several pills to the severely wounded disciple. Since his disciple was weaker than others, there was nothing else to say.

“This Yan Junxuan really lives up to his fame. He should be the top talent of my Skyflower Province’s younger generation!”

“Humph, that is only the number one talent of the Skyflower Province. There is still an immeasurable difference between them and the talents of the Central Province, let alone a monstrous genius like Lin Lanjian.” In the square, a martial artist couldn’t bear to see Yan Junxuan act so domineering and haughty, so he began to mock him.

“That’s right, Lin Lanjian is around the same age as Yan Junxuan and yet he’s already ranked on the Destiny Decree!”

A disciple from another sect shouted from under the stage.

“Lin Lanjian? Hehe...” Yan Junxuan sneered. “Lin Lanjian is only a stepping stone on my road of martial artists. Who cares about how talented he is? Once he is captured by my Misty Stream Sect, he is simply a God Transforming Pill to improve my strength. As

for the Destiny Decree, once I have obtained the God Transforming Pill then I will inevitably rank on the list in another two years!”

“What a load of crap. You think your Misty Stream Sect can even catch Lin Lanjian?”

“Humph! Since my Misty Stream Sect dares to say so then we naturally have secret techniques to locate missing persons! Even though I wouldn’t say it is 90% assured, it is still 60-70% assured! History only remembers winners. When I succeed, I will be recorded in the annals of history. As for Lin Lanjian, he will be nothing but a brief fading comet, quickly forgotten by everyone!”

Yan Junxuan’s words were filled with complete confidence. Combined with his aura that proved he had the qualifications to speak, none of the other juniors dared to step forwards to confront him. As for the seniors here, they naturally couldn’t lower their status by jabbing themselves into the struggles of juniors. Quickly, the entire gathering site had been pressured by Yan Junxuan alone.

“Is there anyone else who disagrees!?”

Yan Junxuan shouted out loud. For a time, there was no response.

Yan Junxuan was very satisfied with his results. He strode towards the talent announcement on the high platform, preparing to write his name down. But at this moment, he suddenly heard the sound of fluttering clothes from behind him. A blue-clothed

man wearing a mask of wood spirit jade had flown onto the stage set up in the square.

This person was Lin Ming.

Yan Junxuan frowned and placed down the brush in his hands. “There really is someone unafraid of death here.”

His eyes paused on Lin Ming’s wood spirit jade mask for a moment. He quickly remembered that Lin Ming was the martial artist that had been quietly sitting in the corner of the restaurant.

It wasn’t rare to see a martial artist wear a wood spirit jade mask, but there were differences in every mask. Lin Ming’s mask had a touch of black above the eyes. This allowed Yan Junxuan to recognize him.

Yan Junxuan lightly humphed, not even placing Lin Ming in his eyes. In his opinion, Lin Ming was just a martial artist that had stumbled onto the news of the reward. This fellow was simply a blind cat hoping to catch a mouse. He thought he could come to the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division and hope to randomly find clues about Lin Ming somehow. Then, when he saw this talent training plan, his blood had heated up for a moment. This sort of person was only looking to get beaten up.

“Who are you? Name yourself!”

“Mushuang Family Clan, Mushuang Jian.” Lin Ming randomly

made up a background and name. In such an incomparably vast Sky Spill Continent, there were far too many family clans and even many family clans hidden away in their own mystic realms and territories. It was impossible to know of every family clan.

Yan Junxuan sized up Lin Ming. Although this person's facial features were blocked, from what he could see and from the tenor of his voice, this person should be relatively young.

“What is the Mushuang Family Clan? I've never heard of it!”

“There are many family clans you've never heard of.” Lin Ming calmly replied. He wasn't much interested in this fight that was no different from slapping little children around. To the current him, he was on a completely different level from the young juniors of his generation.

“Hahahaha! How interesting! Very interesting! A boy from a little known family clan actually dares to be so arrogant in front of me. Then, let me teach you a lesson. Meet my sword!”

Woosh!

With a shrill keening sound, Yan Junxuan's sword pierced towards Lin Ming's face. Lin Ming took a step back. In front of the Asura Divine Kingdom powerhouses he naturally couldn't use moves such as Penetrating Rainbow or Bury the Heavens. Otherwise, they would be able to see that his moves shared origins with the 'Great Desolate Halberd Art'.

Besides those moves, Lin Ming also had the ‘Vermillion Bird Forbidden Divine Chronicle’ as well as the body transformation cultivation method, the ‘Chaotic Virtues Combat Meridians’. Although the striking power was weaker, it was more than enough to deal with a little baby like Yan Junxuan. In fact, Lin Ming didn’t even need to use any special style to defeat him with ease.

Stepping to the side, Lin Ming lowered his center of gravity and then moved forwards.

Body Tearing Bone Shattering Fist!

True essence concentrated into filaments of thread. Lin Ming punched out, energy cascading outwards!

Peng!

With a loud explosion, Yan Junxuan’s sword energy was scattered into nothingness by Lin Ming’s fist. Lin Ming’s fist potential didn’t diminish at all, smashing straight towards Yan Junxuan.

“What!?”

Yan Junxuan was greatly shocked. He cut down with his sword again, hoping to split apart Lin Ming’s fist force. In fact, Yan Junxuan’s sword speed was quite spectacular. In front of an incoming enemy he was able to immediately cut out with a second attack.

However, in the face of an absolute disparity in strength, small advantages like this were negligible.

Vibrating true essence erupted. For a time, it was like Yan Junxuan was a leaf caught in a storm of energy, unable to resist at all.

Puff!

Spitting out a mouthful of blood, Yan Junxuan was sent flying backwards by Lin Ming's punch. True essence rampaged through his body, injuring all of the organs in his body and destroying his meridians!

Lin Ming continued to attack. He took a sudden step forwards and punched out again. He had held back on his first punch so that he wouldn't harm Yan Junxuan's life, but this second punch was to demonstrate just how ruthless and cruel he could be. This was to have those little children milling around him open their eyes so that no one dared to challenge him anymore.

“Stop!”

Yan Junxuan's master shouted. But, he didn't have time to prevent Lin Ming's attack. The second punch solidly smashed into Yan Junxuan's back, and with a loud cracking noise, all of Yan Junxuan's bones were fractured. He vomited a massive mouthful of blood and then fainted on the spot.

After this strike, even if Yan Junxuan's master used all sorts of top heavenly treasures to save him, it would still take him at least half a year to recover. Moreover, there would still be damage left behind!

This silly fellow had desired to capture him alive to trade him for a God Transforming Pill in order to make a breakthrough. Lin Ming wouldn't pity someone like this. If it wasn't for the fact that killing him would have set off a storm of chaos here, Lin Ming wouldn't have minded sending him off to an early start on the road to hell.

“You!!!”

As Yan Junxuan's master saw his own disciple beaten to a pulp in front of his eyes, he was furious. If this wasn't the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division then he would have already ripped Lin Ming to shreds.

“Haha, Sovereign Yan, don't be so angry. This is a comparison of skill – serious injuries are oftentimes inevitable!” An Elder from another sect sarcastically remarked. When Yan Junxuan had severely wounded his last opponent, Sovereign Yan had spoken these exact words. And the person that Yan Junxuan had severely wounded was his disciple.

To be able to speak such words and release the frustration in his heart, his thoughts had become incomparably smooth.

“Good! Good! Very good!” The Misty Stream Sect Sovereign said with an extremely cold voice. In his heart, he had already sentenced this Mushuang Jian and his Mushuang Family Clan to death. As long as this family clan was no more than a basic fifth-grade sect then he would have them pay the most painful price.

“Would anyone else like to come onstage?”

Lin Ming indifferently said as he stood on top of the stage. The wood spirit jade mask covered up any expression he made. Those two strange black marks that angled down above his eyes began to look like black snakes that exuded thick killing intent, causing everyone who looked to shudder.

No one dared to respond. This youth was simply sadistic and his strength was so high that it was a complete mess. If anyone stepped on stage... well, Yan Junxuan had already become their example!

Lin Ming had expected this situation to occur. He began moving towards the high platform, openly stepping towards the 300,000 spirit essence stones. This was the entire reason that Lin Ming had bothered ruining Yan Junxuan. It was because he needed to approach this area first.

He picked up the thickest and roughest brush available. At the same time, Lin Ming's eyes nonchalantly swept over the array formation that covered the 300,000 spirit essence stones. In that instant, the countless complex symbols that comprised the array formation reflected in his pupils as he rapidly deconstructed them.

All of the martial artists present were completely focused on Lin Ming's body.

The Asura Divine Kingdom's Demon Envoy slightly frowned. He felt something was wrong but he just couldn't place his finger on what it was.

Lin Ming dipped the two foot long brush fully into the ink. Then, his brush movements flowed like the wind.

In the blink of an eye, three words filled with a thick murderous intent suddenly appeared like a flash of lightning on the surface of the talent announcement list.

Lin Lanjian!

As the word 'jian' was finally completed with a long vertical stroke, because of the daring spirit and powerful strength contained within, the brush seemed to become like a true sword, directly splitting the talent announcement list in half!

Chapter 797 – Robbery

The entire square was left in silence. Yan Junxuan was still lying bleeding on the ground as several Misty Stream Sect Elders were glaring at Lin Ming.

Lin Ming's brush speed was too fast. As soon as the words appeared they seemed to tear through the talent announcement list paper, carrying a sharp spear intent with them.

Every martial artist present was shocked.

“Lin... Lin Lanjian!!!!”

Some martial artists were befuddled for a moment. But in that instant, a light flashed in Lin Ming's hand and a red long spear rushed out like a crimson flood dragon, directly striking the weak point of the spirit essence stone box's barrier shield!

Penetrating Rainbow!

Energy roared. With an explosive crackling sound, the entire barrier shattered to pieces!

This explosion finally caused everyone's minds to be shaken out of their daze. This wood spirit jade-masked youth was actually Lin Lanjian! And the red spear he used as well as the spear move absolutely proved this point.

He was planning to raise a ruckus at the gathering site?

The Demon Envoy who was personally garrisoning this square was furious. The chair he sat on broke apart as he stood up and fired himself towards Lin Ming.

The other Asura Divine Kingdom martial artists rapidly blocked the area, wanting to capture Lin Ming. Although they were far from being Lin Ming's match, they could still manage to delay him a bit.

In this heavy encirclement of danger, a mere finger snap of time was enough to take one's life!

Facing the trained and coordinated response of the Asura Divine Kingdom's martial artists, Lin Ming simply seemed unaware of it all. He grabbed the box of spirit essence stones and stuffed it into his spatial ring.

“You dare!?!?”

The Demon Envoy's eyes turned bright red. He finally understood that the reason Lin Ming came here today was to rob them!

The Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division had a total of three Demon Envoys guarding the land as well as Elders and masters from various famous sects of the four Divine Kingdoms. Yet, underneath all of these personages' eyes, Lin Lanjian actually

dared to openly rob the reward they had posted!?!?

The Demon Envoy simply thought that Lin Lanjian had lost his mind. This was a suicidal action!

“If you want to die so badly then let me help you!”

The Asura Demon Envoy took out a 10 foot long overlord spear from his spatial ring. He gripped the spear with both hands and smashed it down towards Lin Ming!

This Demon Envoy's strength was ranked 83 on the Destiny Decree. Against Lin Ming, who was only ranked near the end of the Destiny Decree, he could definitely instantly kill him!

The Demon Envoy's spear strike came tumbling down as if an entire mountain range was collapsing. A terrifying flux of energy tore through space. If Lin Ming was struck by this spear attack then he would definitely be split in half.

A Revolving Core realm martial artist who was split apart at the waist could still maintain their life as long as they were treated in time. The Asura Demon Envoy planned to capture Lin Ming alive and torture out all of the details from him that concerned the Demon Emperor's inheritances.

Lin Ming stared blankly on as the Demon Envoy's spear came smashing down on him. This spear's power and might far exceeded Lin Ming's own Bury the Heavens and its speed had reached an

incredible degree.

This was the strength of a top 100 ranked Destiny Decree master.

Lin Ming's lips curved up in a grin. Energy erupted from his knees; the Gate of Wonder opened!

Breaking through the limits of the body and instantly reached the limit of speed, Lin Ming's feet twisted as space distorted underneath him. With a single step, Lin Ming had vanished like a puff of smoke.

Although Lin Ming couldn't directly face the Demon Envoy, after he had opened the Gate of Wonder, he could rely on his speed alone to show disdain for the Destiny Decree!

Bang!

The Asura Demon Envoy's spear crashed into the high platform, causing the entire structure to loudly crumble into nothing. The earth broke apart and all of the surrounding martial artists were sent flying away by the shockwave. Those with weaker cultivations spat out great mouthfuls of blood.

And at this time, Lin Ming had already reappeared 1000 feet away.

The Asura Demon Envoy's spear had missed.

He couldn't believe it. His spear had missed!?

Not only had his spear speed reached the limit but it also contained the Concept of Space. It could be used to twist and lock down the surrounding space. Yet, his attack had actually been dodged by a mere late Revolving Core martial artist!?

This was not a speed that a Revolving Core martial artist could have!

This ghostly scene caused the Asura Demon Envoy's heart to seethe with rage. He shouted out, "Stop him! Open the sealing array!"

At the moment the Asura Demon Envoy shouted out, three Asura Divine Kingdom martial artists shot towards Lin Ming. Two of them were impressively Life Destruction martial artists.

"Die!"

Lin Ming coldly spat out that single word. And, without even using a spear move, three arrows of battle spirit-infused true essence air shot out from Lin Ming's mouth, directly colliding with the three Asura Divine Kingdom martial artist's heads!

Peng! Peng! Peng!

With three loud bursting sounds, the three Asura Divine Kingdom martial artists' heads blew apart like watermelons, their brain fluids showering into the air.

“What!?”

All of the heroic young elites present held their breath, unable to even think properly. They only felt their minds tremble. Of those three Asura Divine Kingdom martial artists, two of them were first stage Life Destruction martial artists that were absolutely not inferior to any of them. Yet, in front of Lin Lanjian, they had been nothing but ants. They had been shot to death by nothing but true essence air arrows!

In other words, if Lin Lanjian wanted to kill them, he would only need to breathe in their general direction. And the reason that he didn't kill Yan Junxuan with a single breath just now was all in order to hide his strength.

This disparity couldn't even be described by clouds and mud. This was the first time that any of them had encountered a talent that was terrifying to the extent of making them tremble with dismay. This was a strength that left everyone weeping in despair!

“You bastard!”

The Demon Envoy angrily shouted and thrust his spear towards Lin Ming. He revolved his true essence to the limit, completely opening all of his energy. With every step he took, mountains quaked and rivers surged!

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

Massive five foot deep footprints appeared all over the entire square. All of these footprints were several feet wide and they sent countless shards of rock scattering into the air. All of the martial artists in the square were blown away like pieces of straw in a tornado, thrown out in all directions.

The Demon Envoy had only used his movement technique, but the dark energy hidden in the shockwaves was already enough to severely wound the weaker martial artists.

Lin Ming heard the sound of air splitting from behind him. He didn't need to look back to know that the Asura Demon Envoy was chasing after him. He thought little of it, instead completely opening the Gate of Wonder. In addition, with the ethereal and exquisite 'Golden Roc Shattering the Void', his speed rapidly climbed to the extreme.

Woosh!

Lin Ming became a ray of light that cut through the vast horizon, crossing over a dozen miles in an instant. All of the martial artists still at the square were left dumbfounded.

Was this really speed that a human could possess?

Rumble rumble!

The sealing array formation that covered the entire Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division began to activate. But to Lin Ming, this large-scale array formation had started far too slowly.

Moreover, he had already found a great weak point in this massive array. Since this array also originated from the Demon Emperor's inheritance, Lin Ming had been able to easily unravel it.

“Penetrating Rainbow!”

With a thrust, Lin Ming's spear stabbed into the weak point of the just now activated array. With a loud tearing sound, a section of the array dozens of feet wide suddenly burst open in front of him, allowing him to run out with ease.

“You lunatic!”

A loud shout came from somewhere else in the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division, rumbling outwards like a passing thundercloud.

The two other Demon Envoys also joined the chase!

In broad daylight, under the watchful eyes of everyone, as well as with three Asura Divine Kingdom Demon Envoys personally guarding the branch division, Lin Ming had actually made his way in and stolen away 300,000 spirit essence stones. This was too disgraceful!

Once news of this spread out, their Asura Divine Kingdom would lose face!

“We must overtake him!”

“We have to obtain the Demon Emperor’s inheritance!”

“After searching his soul, turn him into a corpse doll and hang him atop the gates of our Divine Kingdom’s cities! Let them see the glory and might of our Asura Divine Kingdom!”

“No one is allowed to dishonor the glory of our Divine Kingdom!”

The three Demon Envoys all wore black clothes. Their hearts raged with an inferno of hate and anger. Even if they caught Lin Ming today, this would still become a stain on their lives that they would never be able to erase!

One person fleeing with three people chasing. They cut through the skies like falling stars, flying into the far off horizon!

Within the square, the martial artists there were bewildered. Although Lin Lanjian’s name and reputation rang out like thunder in their ears, seeing was believing. They never imagined that Lin Lanjian would appear in the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division and openly challenge the very dignity of the Asura Divine Kingdom!

A man and his spear, Lin Lanjian by himself had demolished the Asura Divine Kingdom's gathering of heroes, stolen away 300,000 spirit essence stones, instantly killed three Asura Divine Kingdom masters, and then... left without injury!

Just what kind of boldness was this!!!

In the face of an entire Divine Kingdom hunting after him, Lin Lanjian hadn't hidden his identity and secluded himself in some remote mountain range. Instead, he had caused a ruckus in the Asura Divine Kingdom's Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division!

"This Lin Lanjian is too terrifying!"

"He looks just over 20 years old and yet he can contend with a Demon Envoy..."

"And when he fled, was that even human speed...?"

"Even the mountain sealing array formation wasn't able to stop him. He cannot be judged by common sense!"

"What a monster!"

All of the martial artists in the square were talking amongst themselves. Many of the heroic young elites had pale and weak complexions. Compared with Lin Lanjian, the difference was simply too great!

“What do we do? Should we still involve ourselves in this?” Some martial artists already had the idea of withdrawing. Lin Lanjian was far too ruthless for them. He had even dared break his way into the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division that was guarded by three Demon Envoys.

“Don’t be afraid, that Lin Lanjian is only fast; his strength should still only rank at around 300 on the Destiny Decree. That, at least, shouldn’t be wrong. Otherwise he wouldn’t have run, but would have fought with the Demon Envoy!”

“If we join forces then we have no need to fear him. We also have many Destiny Decree masters here, and many of them are even above Corpsemancer. Moreover, we have the support of the Asura Divine Kingdom. After Lin Lanjian messed with the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division, the bounty on him will definitely rise again!”

“The Asura Divine Kingdom had their face swept to the ground and even had 300,000 spirit essence stones stolen away. They will never let this go.”

“Although you say that, I don’t think that Lin Lanjian will be able to successfully run away. Those are three Demon Envoys chasing him! Lin Lanjian’s speed is extraordinary but his strength and cultivation are far too low. Even if he relies on some sort of arcane skill or treasure to momentarily match the three Demon Envoys in speed, he won’t be able to keep it up forever. There is no way his endurance and thickness of his true essence will be able to last much longer. As for those three Demon Envoys, all three of them

are sixth stage Life Destruction masters!”

“Not wrong. Perhaps that Lin Lanjian will perish here at Jagged Slope Mountain today. Although his cultivation and strength are amazing, he is still far too young. He will pay the price for his impulsiveness!”

As the numerous martial artists within the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division were speaking, Lin Ming’s chase by the three Demon Envoys had already continued for several hundred miles!

With the speed from the Gate of Wonder combined with ‘Golden Roc Shattering the Void’, Lin Ming produced a sonic boom as he flew in the air. He also used the black bat wings that Corpsemancer had left behind. Before this, Lin Ming had roughly managed to alter them for his own use. After all, this was still a heaven-step flight treasure. It could definitely increase Lin Ming’s speed.

With all three of these factors combined together, Lin Ming was a level faster than the three Demon Envoys. But, he controlled his speed so that the three Demon Envoys were following behind him.

Behind Lin Ming, just 10 miles away, the three Demon Envoys’ faces had darkened to the point of dripping water.

Chapter 798 – Unbelievable Speed

“This brat, how is this even possible!?”

The three Demon Envoys were running out of breath. They thought that Lin Ming used some kind of arcane ability that stimulated his bodily potential in order reach such extreme speeds. Those arcane abilities usually caused a few detrimental side effects, and were also impossible to maintain forever. However, Lin Ming didn't seem like he had used up any strength at all, even after flying for such a long time. In fact, he seemed to have a great deal of energy left over. It also seemed that the more he flew, the faster he became! This was just too strange!

1000 miles....

2000 miles....

3000 miles...

4000 miles...

Once they reached 5000 miles, Lin Ming still hadn't slowed down, even after passing over the entire Jagged Slope Mountain Range.

“Damn it! What should we do?”

The third Asura Demon Envoy asked. He was a middle-aged man, ranked 93rd on the Destiny Decree. He currently had a pained expression as he took a shard of stalactite essence from his spatial ring, bitterly swallowing it down.

“We’ve already flown for around 5000 miles, and yet he can still last this long!?” Another Demon Envoy took a jade bottle out from his spatial ring and swallowed a snow white pill.

“We’ve already consumed our true essence to the limit. His cultivation is inferior to ours, so it’s impossible for him to continue flying for much longer.”

The one who spoke was the leading second Demon Envoy, his words filled with self-confidence. He was ranked 83rd on the Destiny Decree.

However, what happened was....

6000 miles....

7000 miles...

It seemed as if Lin Ming wanted to fly out to a 10,000 mile distance. Not only that, but the more he flew, the faster he became! The first Demon Envoy had blue veins bulging out from his forehead.

This was simply impossible!

They had already flown an additional 2000 miles! This could already be considered as having flown far away, even with their standards....

The second Demon Envoy's complexion turned extremely ugly. Just what sort of secrets did this Lin Lanjian have on him? Why was he able to flee so quickly, and for such a long time?

Another 1000 miles flew by as everyone approached the 8000 mile mark. Lin Ming still maintained a relatively relaxed state throughout.

A flying martial artist was the same as a running mortal. If they ran at their top speeds, then they would only be able to last for about 100-200 meters before falling the ground in complete exhaustion.

However, if they maintained 70-80% of their maximum speed, then they could maintain this for several miles.

Lin Ming was in the same situation. He was maintaining a flight speed of around 70-80% of his limit. After crossing 8000 miles, his consumption wasn't too great. Furthermore, because he had already opened the Gate of Healing, his endurance and recovery ability had since far surpassed a normal martial artist. Thus, there was always an enormous amount of true essence in his dantian.

However, the three Demon Envoys behind him were in a much more miserable state. For the past 8000 miles, they had to fly as

fast as they could, and the further they flew the more they fell behind. The third Demon Envoy had already consumed his third shard of stalactite essence.

“Don’t continue chasing.” The second Demon Envoy suddenly stopped. At the start of the chase, they had only been 10 miles far from Lin Lanjian. Now, they were over 100 miles away!

They had also taken several medicines to supplement their true essence. No matter how good the medicine was, repeatedly consuming these medicines would eventually cause impurities to appear in their true essence. If that happened, they would be unable to display their peak combat strength. To be in that sort of situation within the borders of the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom was undoubtedly dangerous.

“This Lin Lanjian must have some sort of top supportive flight treasure or some kind of special arcane flight ability. He might even have both.” The second Demon Envoy said with a gloomy tone.

For a late Revolving Core youth to surpass a sixth stage Life Destruction master in speed and endurance, this was simply too unbelievable!

“Damnit! Just how many amazing treasures are there on his body!?” The first Demon Envoy panted out. He had used up so much strength and effort, and had chased so far, just to end up empty-handed. Under their watch, they had only been able to watch helplessly as that Lin Lanjian stole away 300,000 spirit essence stones. This was simply too great a shame, and he could

already see the news of this event spreading all through the martial cultivation world by tomorrow. The four Divine Kingdoms and all the powerful family clans in their hidden realms would regard them as absolute laughing stocks.

“I will capture that brat and skin him alive!”

The third Demon Envoy heatedly said. As he thought of the 300,000 spirit essence stones, he felt as if he would die from his intestines twisting in place.

There had been many rare, superior spirit essence stones worth 300,000 spirit essence stones in total. Even he couldn't afford to use them during his training. He would only cautiously use a few dozen of those superior spirit essence stones if he was either breaking through a bottleneck in cultivation or attempting to cross over to another stage of Life Destruction..

To shamefully lose 300,000 spirit essence stones just like that, the three of them would definitely take the blame for this. They would definitely be punished by the Asura Divine Kingdom!

“Let's meditate for some time and then return. There was no harvest from today, but I've managed to record a trace of Lin Lanjian's energy. Even if he were to wear a wood spirit jade mask next time, I would still be able to identify him!” The second Demon Envoy said with a morose expression, before searching for a secluded area to meditate and recover.

They had already flown 8000 miles outwards. This area was

desolate and deserted, without any transmission arrays nearby. If they wished to return, then they would have to slowly fly back. As the three Demon Envoys remembered this fact, they became even more depressed, and their expressions became that much uglier.

“They’ve finally stopped chasing me.”

300 miles away from the three Demon Envoys, Lin Ming’s stood suspended in the air, his lips turned upwards in a cunning smile. Although those three Demon Envoys had consumed a great deal of their energy, he wouldn’t be so stupid as to bite off more than he could chew, and challenge the three of them. Those three were still sixth stage Life Destruction powerhouses, after all, and the fires of their lives were still blazing vibrantly. These were characters that had hopes of reaching the Divine Sea. When they were youths, they were definitely Emperor level talents, and outstanding ones at that. Even if only one remained, Lin Ming still wouldn’t dare return to provoke them. At this time, he just fundamentally wasn’t a match for them.

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Jagged Slope Mountain, Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division –

“That Lin Lanjian was way too impetuous. I wonder just what’s happened to him. Unfortunately, this entire Jagged Slope Mountain has been sealed off, so there’s no way for us to catch up to him.”

“No kidding. It’s too unfortunate, we missed a great battle!”

“Hehe, sealing off this mountain is common, as Lin Lanjian is just that important. There are too many treasures on his body; he is simply a treasure himself. Before he is caught, no news of this can be leaked out to others. Otherwise someone might catch up to him ahead of time, and the Asura Divine Kingdom would lose everything instead.”

The Elders of the various great sects were talking about whether or not Lin Lanjian would finally meet a dead end. At this time, however, three black-clothed men walked into the square. One of them was an old man who was in charge of the Asura Divine Kingdom’s Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division.

The Asura Divine Kingdom had several dozen branch divisions set up all over the Sky Spill Continent. The leader of a branch division was called the Hall Master. Because there were too many Hall Masters scattered throughout the continent, their status wasn’t considered too high.

However, the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division was an exception. Because the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division was in charge of matters within the Nine Furnace Divine Kingdom, their branch division was one of the largest. This branch division’s Hall Master was just strong enough to rank on the Destiny Decree. Of course, he was far from being able to compare with the Demon Envoys.

“Hall Master Situ!”

Several old men cupped their fists together in respect. They naturally recognized Hall Master Situ, due to frequently interacting with the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division.

Hall Master Situ cupped his fists in return and said, “Everyone, please remain patient. My Divine Kingdom’s Sir Demon Envoys are already pursuing Lin Lanjian. They should be able to capture him without incident.

As he spoke, he was also glad that the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division had three Demon Envoys garrisoning this place. Otherwise, there was no way that he could contend with Lin Lanjian. He simply couldn’t keep up with that strange, ghostly speed of his.

“As long as we can catch Lin Lanjian, then the matter of 300,000 spirit essence stones being stolen away in front of everyone, and the loss of face from that will be wiped clean. This could also be considered a great merit for me, as this gathering of heroes could be my rise to glory.”

As Hall Master Situ thought of this, his mood became much more pleasant.

Chapter 799 – Sudden Retaliation

“The entire Jagged Slope Mountain has been closed off and completely sealed away by the array formation here. Thus, I ask of everyone to please patiently wait for a period of time... do not try to leave. Once the three Sir Demon Envoys return, everyone will be able to freely depart.”

As Hall Master Situ spoke, he quietly lifted up the array formation that protected the God Transforming Pill. Then, he put the God Transforming Pill and the medium-grade heaven-step treasure that was on display back into his spatial ring. As he looked around at all the martial artists and saw that none of them seemed bothered by the situation, he nodded with satisfaction.

In an emergency, blocking off the area was the standard procedure. Since this area had the protection of the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division and the might of the Asura Divine Kingdom behind it, no one dared to utter a complaint.

“The sudden events have certainly caused everyone to be shocked and lose time. After Lin Lanjian has been captured, the Asura Divine Kingdom will be sure to compensate everyone here,” Hall Master Situ promised everyone. If they could catch Lin Lanjian then that would be a massive stroke of fortune for the Asura Divine Kingdom. Naturally, no one would care about some minor compensation such as continuing to carry out the cooperative talent training plan.

“Haha, Hall Master Situ is too kind. We shall defer to your recommendation. If there is any assistance you need from us in the

future, the Asura Divine Kingdom merely needs to say it and we'll try our best!"

All of the famed Elders of the various sects flattered Hall Master Situ. Then, time ticked on. Like this, four hours soon passed by...

....

"Nearly four hours have passed, how come they haven't returned yet?" Hall Master Situ's eyebrows shot up. He felt a bit nervous in his heart.

"No matter how much of a genius Lin Lanjian is, he is only a top 300 Destiny Decree martial artist. With the strength of the three Demon Envoys they should be able to capture him. Unless he made some preparations beforehand, such as laying down protective arrays or setting up transmission arrays to escape in time..."

"Impossible. If Lin Lanjian laid down a temporary transmission array, then it shouldn't be too far. Otherwise, it'd be meaningless. In that case, he'd have either already left through it and escaped or he would've been captured by now. It's impossible for things to drag on for this long."

"Hall Master Situ, it's been four hours and Lin Lanjian still hasn't been captured? When will the great mountain sealing array be lifted up?" A sect Elder asked. Four hours were indeed a long time.

Although Hall Master Situ was cursing in his heart, his face

actually revealed a smile full of confidence. “Haha, my Asura Divine Kingdom’s three Demon Envoys are all top 100 Destiny Decree masters. When the three of them act together, there definitely won’t be a problem! The great mountain sealing array will soon be undone. I ask of everyone to please show patience a little while longer.

Once the great mountain sealing array was activated, all flow of information would be isolated, even that of the Asura Divine Kingdom. Moreover, even if they could, Hall Master Situ still wouldn’t rashly bother them. Who knew whether or not they were involved in a brutal fight at this very moment?

“What Hall Master Situ said is right. Elder Sun shouldn’t worry so much. Come, sit down and have a cup with us.”

This gathering of heroes had brought the Elders and outstanding young elites of various great sects together. There was naturally excellent food and wine prepared for all of them. All of it had already been placed on the tables in the square, it was just that no one had had the time to enjoy it yet.

“That’s right, everyone, drink to your heart’s content!” Hall Master Situ laughed out while a radiant and confident smile emblazoned on his face. “Lin Lanjian has stolen the holy relics of my Asura Divine Kingdom and also the inheritances of my people. If we can truly recover our lost legacies today, then I must thank all the Elders here for their help. I respectfully raise a cup to everyone present!”

As he raised his cup of wine and was about to drink it all at once,

great ripples suddenly began to run through the great mountain sealing array barrier.

The array got opened?

Hall Master Situ was overjoyed. If there were people on the outside, then it should mean that the three Demon Envoys had returned.

“Hahaha, everyone, the three Sir Demon Envoys have already returned. I shall go and meet with them first before coming back here!”

His face was filled with smiles. The audience all shouted their congratulations but there were also some people that appeared disappointed. If the three Demon Envoys hadn't caught Lin Lanjian, then that would've been better. The bounty reward would have dramatically soared at that time, and if they then joined forces and managed to catch Lin Lanjian, they would have gained even more.

Hall Master Situ just took several steps out when the entire great mountain sealing array shook once again. The scale of energy had obviously risen to another level but there still wasn't a response. Another loud explosion followed, nearly causing the cup of wine in his hand to fall to the ground.

What was going on?

Hall Master Situ was startled. All of the martial artists present were also stunned. Were the three Demon Envoys attacking the great mountain sealing array?

All of the martial artists felt that this was a bit suspicious. They simultaneously released their perception together to look through the curtains that blocked off the grand temple grounds. Like this, they finally saw the scene occurring outside of the great mountain sealing array.

A white-clothed youth wearing a wood spirit jade mask was holding onto a red long spear, launching a barrage of attacks on the great mountain sealing array!

One spear thrust after the other smashed into the array barrier! Every spear strike caused the ground to shake! Every spear strike caused the entire Jagged Mountain Slope to tremble!

This shocking scene sharply contrasted to the seemingly calm young man that was attacking the array barrier. The twin marks on his wood spirit jade mask seemed quiet and eerie. An air of seeming indifference rolled off him that contained nearly endless murderous intent!

“L-Lin Lanjian!”

“H-how is this possible!? The three Demon Envoys!?”

“He can’t have killed the three Demon Envoys, right!?”

“That’s impossible! Do you even know how strong the three Demon Envoys are? They even have a chance of reaching the Divine Sea realm! Lin Lanjian is indeed a genius, but those three Demon Envoys were also Emperor level talents when they were young! Now they’re sixth stage Life Destruction masters while Lin Lanjian is only a mere late Revolving Core boy. Even though his talent defies the will of the heavens, he still shouldn’t be the Demon Envoys’ match!”

All of the martial artist’s present paled. At this time, Lin Ming thrust out with his by now well-known Penetrating Rainbow attack. The spear light cut through the void, smashing into the great mountain sealing array and causing a crack to appear on the translucent surface of the barrier!

This great mountain sealing array stemmed from the inheritance of the Demon Emperor. The array formation that once sealed up the Nirvana Dragon Root within the Demon Emperor’s medicine garden shared the basic foundation with this current great mountain sealing array. With Lin Ming’s current understanding of array formations, he had already completely understood how to break open this array.

If he had the array opening token, he would be able to easily open it. But now that he didn’t have the token, he chose to attack the weak point of the array formation instead. With his striking power combined with his battle spirit, he could break open a man-sized gap in the barrier in a mere 10 breaths of time.

As the martial artists saw Lin Ming attack the array formation

and the cracks extending even further on the barrier, all of their complexions changed. What kind of striking power was this!? This was a great mountain sealing array! Even though it was only the Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division, it was still able to withstand the attacks of several hundred martial artists combined together!

How could Lin Ming cause cracks to appear in but a few strikes!?

“No one panic! The only reason he can destroy the great array formation is because he is proficient in array formation structures! His true striking power definitely isn’t as strong as it seems! Even if a top 10 Destiny Decree master came here, they still wouldn’t be able to tear open the array formation in a short period of time.”

The sealing arrays passed down from the Demon Emperor’s inheritance were naturally powerful. This was an inheritance that the Asura Divine Kingdom was extremely proud of. But now, it had become counterproductive instead. Without a doubt, Lin Ming’s understanding of the Demon Emperor’s array formations far surpassed their own.

“This brat definitely has a great number of the Demon Emperor’s personal letters!” This thought instantly crossed Hall Master Situ’s mind when there was suddenly a loud cracking sound. The section of the great mountain sealing array in front of Lin Ming suddenly cracked again, finally giving away as a three foot wide opening appeared before him.

“It’s broken!!!! The array has broken!!”

All of the martial artists present were terrified as some of them had already thoughts of retreating. Although Lin Ming was only a Destiny Decree master in the top 300, the strength and abilities he had displayed today caused them all to feel a dreadful dismay.

Lin Ming slowly flew over the square. The reason he had suddenly returned to retaliate was first to teach a profound and lifelong lesson to all of these martial artists that wanted to capture him alive in exchange for a bounty. And the most important point was that he had come to steal the God Transforming Pill.

That pill would be greatly beneficial to him when he decided to cross Life Destruction.

This had been the very simple plan of luring the tiger out of its cave. The reason that the three Demon Envoys had fallen for this was because their hearts were filled with a raging anger, causing their minds to go completely blank. All the Demon Envoys thought about was killing Lin Ming to erase the shame they experienced. But they had far underestimated his flight ability. They never imagined that he could maintain such an 'extreme speed' through 8000 miles and still have ample strength left to make his way back and attack the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division.

Thus, this situation had developed into such a strange scene. The Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division, that had three Demon Envoys guarding it, actually had to face the looting of Lin Ming twice!

After he opened the gate of Wonder, he had gained an absolute advantage in speed. Compared to the Gate of Healing's endurance and recovery ability, and the Gate of Limit's balance and explosive force, this was far more valuable. As long as he could make use of it, he would be able to accomplish all sorts of unpredictable effects!

His eyes swept over the area where the God Transforming Pill had been. The array formation had already been lifted and the God Transforming Pill had been taken away.

This was to be expected. It was impossible to continue placing the God Transforming Pill in full view of everyone.

But what Lin Ming could be certain of was that the God Transforming Pill was on the body of some Asura Divine Kingdom martial artist currently present. When he stole away the 300,000 spirit essence stones after which the three Demon Envoys had chased him in hot pursuit, it was impossible for those three Demon Envoys to undo the array formation and stow away the God Transforming Pill in such a short amount of time.

Thus, the God Transforming Pill had to have been left behind in this square. The highest probability was that it was taken away by the person in charge of the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division.

As his eyes swept over everyone, they eventually settled on a black-clothed old man. Besides those three high-ranked Destiny Decree sect Elders Lin Ming had already seen, this black-clothed old man was the most glaring and obnoxious looking one. Moreover, his cultivation had also reached the fifth stage of Life

Destruction. There was an over 90% chance that he was the person heading the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division.

This black-clothed old man was Hall Master Situ. Hall Master Situ extracted a spear from his spatial ring, his expression incomparably solemn and grim. He didn't know how Lin Ming had tricked the three Demon Envoys, but what he knew was that the three Demon Envoys had failed!

This was the most important test in his life as well as the greatest chance he would ever encounter!

If he could capture Lin Ming alive, then that would be an unbelievably great merit. He would obtain the generous reward of the Asura Divine Kingdom! As he thought of this, his entire body tensed as even his eyes lit up with a bloodthirsty and excited light.

“All heroes present, to anyone that can help me capture this thief today, not only will I reward you 500,000 spirit essence stones and the God Transforming Pill, I'll also reward a single Life Bestowing Heaven Pill!”

At this critical moment Hall Master Situ could no longer care about anything. In order to seize Lin Ming he had to do everything within his power, even if that meant promising such a heavy reward that he had no authority to hand it out.

The Life Bestowing Heaven Pill!!!

Hall Master Situ's words caused the Elders of all the large sects present to be surprised for a moment. Then, their eyes immediately bloomed with a blazingly eager light!

Chapter 800 – Blood Washed Jagged Slope Mountain

For most of the famous sect Elders present, their fires of life were already subsiding; it was nearly impossible for them to take another step forward in their cultivation within their lives. In this case, the God Transforming Pill that could increase their chances of successfully reaching the divine Sea realm wasn't too tempting.

The reason many of them had come to take a chance of obtaining the God Transforming Pill was in consideration of their disciples. Even if they swallowed the God Transforming Pill themselves, there basically wasn't any chance for them to pass from the fifth to the sixth stage of Life Destruction.

This Life Bestowing Heaven Pill, on the other hand, was different. Not only did it merely attract the attention of the Elders present but it was a divine pill that they would go crazy over!

The higher boundary a martial artist reached, the more of their life potential they would have dug out, the more vibrant the fires of their life became, and the more difficult it was to extend their life. To a martial artist, an inferior 100 year medicine could lengthen their lives by dozens of years and even have the effect of resurrecting the dead. To a Xiantian realm martial artist, high quality 1000 year medicines had similar effects. But to a Life Destruction master, medicines that could extend their lives could be called legendary treasures. If one didn't have the foundation of a Divine Kingdom, it was simply impossible to even think about obtaining one!

And this Life Bestowing Heaven Pill was one of those marvelous pills. Not only could it lengthen one's life but it could also make the fires of their live much more ebullient, turning back their clock and making them younger by up to 500 years!

This was a life changing, heaven defying divine pill that even the four Divine Kingdoms only had a small number of. To these Elders, becoming 500 years younger meant there was a chance they could further enhance their cultivation. If this was combined with the God Transforming Pill, there might even be a chance of breaking through to the sixth stage of Life Destruction!

After reaching the sixth stage of Life Destruction, if they experienced another massive lucky chance then there might even be the faintest thread of hope to reach the Divine Sea! Although they would only be the weakest of Divine Sea masters, that was still the Divine Sea! They would be reborn! Their dantian would experience great changes and they would have at least 5000 years of life to spend as they wished! To them, this was the same as living like an immortal every day!

“Let's attack together. He only entered the top 300 of the Destiny Decree half a month ago and his cultivation is only at the late Revolving Core realm. It's impossible for him to have made another breakthrough in his cultivation or for his strength to have greatly increased in such a short period of time. We have four Destiny Decree masters here. As long as we join forces we can definitely capture him alive!”

Hall Master Situ shouted out. As he spoke, Lin Ming's eyes suddenly locked on his body. The ice cold mask and the black lines

that snaked down the mask seemed to exude a near infinite killing intent, making him feel as if he had fallen into a deep, icy lake.

However, he remembered the three Destiny Decree masters behind him. With him, that was a total of four great masters. They held an enormous advantage over Lin Ming. He was suddenly filled with courage and bravado again.

“Let’s attack together! Feng Yan, Ju Sun, go to the main temple and activate the protective array formation!”

Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division’s main temple naturally had its own great defensive array. Even if Lin Ming was proficient in the Demon Emperor’s array formations, he wouldn’t be able to completely disregard it. Once the array formation started, it would be able to contain Lin Ming to a large extent.

The martial artists in the square immediately began running toward the great hall. As for the three famous sect Elders and the other Life Destruction martial artists, they all scattered away, spreading around and occupying favorable positions. They were ready to use all sorts of sneak attack methods on Lin Ming. Although they didn’t dare to directly face him, they could take advantage of the moment when he was fighting the four great masters to sneak in some attacks.

After all, Hall Master Situ’s reward was simply too tempting!

“Do not be afraid! We have an absolute advantage with our strength! Lin Lanjian must have consumed a great deal of his true

essence in escaping; he can't have much left!" Hall Master Situ's voice echoed in everyone's ears.

"All disciples of the Misty Stream Sect, follow my command! Prepare the Misty Stream Formation!" The Misty Stream Sect Sovereign was one of the three famous sect Elders. The Life Bestowing Heaven Pill was far too great an enticement to him; he had to obtain it at any cost! Moreover, he still had to take revenge for when his disciple, Yan Junxuan, had been heavily wounded.

The Misty Stream Formation needed 12 elite disciples to stand in formation. By relying on their mutual cooperation, the martial artists would be able to fuse their attacks together, combining the weak to defeat the strong. At this time, all of the people the Misty Stream Sect had brought over were outstanding disciples and all of them were familiar with the Misty Stream Formation. Once this formation was formed, then even though it might not be able to harm Lin Ming, it could still serve in a diversionary role.

All of these disciples were well-trained elites. Even though the situation was chaotic and tense, they still looked for their spot in an orderly fashion. The Misty Stream Sect Sovereign actually stood in front of these disciples, blocking off Lin Ming. Once Lin Ming started to attack, the Misty Stream Sect Sovereign would fend him off, ensuring that the Misty Stream Formation would successfully be formed.

At this moment, Lin Ming's lips curved up in a fierce sneer. Although he didn't place this battle formation in his eyes, that didn't mean he would allow them to simply do as they pleased.

“Do you really think you can block me?”

Heavenly Demon martial intent, open to the limit!

Bang!

A terrifying force field energy rushed out like a tide. He revolved the Heretical God Force to the limit, simultaneously releasing the strength of the third level of the Eight inner Hidden Gates as he poured his large success bronze battle spirit into the energy of the force field.

Asura force field, omnidirectional suppression of the body and soul!

Death God force field, cutting down life and extinguishing all vitality!

The Misty Stream disciples that were laying down the Misty Stream Formation were suddenly enveloped by the dual force fields. Because the disciples with the weaker cultivations couldn't withstand the pressure of the Asura force field, their heads exploded like watermelons as red blood and white brain fluid splashed all over the ground!

As for the others, their bodies suddenly shook, their eyes blew apart, their blood vessels burst, their meridians tore to pieces, and their dantian completely collapsed on themselves!

Peng! Peng! Peng!

With several muffled thumping sounds, several martial artists slumped to the ground. Many headless corpses still stood on their feet, their bodies twitching in response.

This sudden scene caused the many martial artists present to be stunned in fear. How had their comrades died just now?

They hadn't even seen Lin Lanjian do anything!!!

It was as if he just glanced at them and they all died on the spot!

“Lin Lanjian! You dare to kill my Misty Stream Sect disciples!? I will take your life!”

The Misty Stream Sect's Old Man Yan's eyes turned blood red. He drew out a long sword from his spatial ring, revolving all of the energy within his body as he pointed it straight toward Lin Ming.

Lin Ming scoffed. “What a joke! You want to kill me but I can't kill you? Do you think I should stretch my neck out and let you chop it off as you please?”

Old Man Yan had no intention of bantering with Lin Ming. He calmly stroked the edge of his sword, causing the blade to become translucent like jade. Energy trembled and a divine light shot into the blue skies.

“Skysplit Sword!”

Old Man Yan slashed his sword down at Lin Ming. The Misty Stream Sect was a strong fifth-grade sect so their inheritances were naturally good. This Skysplit Sword was the ultimate move of the Misty Stream Sword Art. One had to cultivate the inherited heart mantra to the highest level in order to use it.

According to the ancient texts of the Misty Stream Sect, when the Skysplit Sword’s might reached its pinnacle, a single sword strike could split apart the endless blue sky!

Zheng!

The sword light turned. It looked like a jade dragon descending down the mountains, emitting a harsh, whistling sound that passed through the clouds and could split apart stone.

Facing the sword of a Destiny Decree master, Lin Ming didn’t have much of an expression at all. He shook the long spear in his hand and the Concept of Fire wove together with the Laws of Space.

Law of Annihilation, Chain of Stars!

Peng!

Space shattered like glass. The flame energy fused with the power of space, condensing into tiny fragments that spun in the air like miniature stars. Then, they turned toward Old Man Yan and shrouded over his sword light.

Ca!

Harsh sounds of colliding energy filled the air. The star fragments tore into the sword light and terrifying true essence shockwaves exploded outward, causing a massive storm to set off in the surrounding area.

Under the impact of such a terrifying flow of energy, Old Man Yan was struck in the chest. He was sent flying backward, the blood tumbling in his body as he nearly vomited some!

“Sovereign!”

As the young elites of the Misty Stream Sect saw Old Man Yan sent flying back in such a miserable state, all of them were inexplicably horrified. The Skysplit Sword their Sovereign used was the ultimate finishing move of their Misty Stream Sect! How could this have happened!?

Meanwhile, Lin Ming didn't give Old Man Yan any chance to recover. He turned the red spear in his hands and the Chain of Stars came out again!

This time, Lin Ming was the one taking the initiative to attack.

The power of space condensed into countless space fragments that shot outward. Old Man Yan blocked some but many of the other martial artists were also caught within the range of the attack.

“Be careful!”

“Withdraw!”

Several Elders cried out in alarm while they simultaneously released true essence shields around them. However, the most they could protect was themselves; it was impossible for them to help anyone else.

The space fragments were just too fast. They sprayed forward like a hail of knives, recklessly firing toward the martial artists.

A part of the space fragments violently crashed into several Elder's true essence shields, erupting into brilliant and deadly sparks of energy. But most of the space fragments had flowed toward the groups of ordinary martial artists. Most of them had a cultivation at the Revolving Core realm and some were even at the Xiantian realm. It was impossible for them to resist such an attack!

Peng! Peng! Peng! Peng! Peng!

Fresh scarlet red blood bloomed in the air. Miserable screams sounded out from all over. Several Revolving Core martial artists had their heads directly pierced through by these space fragments. Then, the savage and violent power of space broke out, causing

their heads to burst apart and their brain fluids to mix with the rain of blood.

“Quickly, retreat!”

All of the surviving young martial artists from every sect and family clan instantly lost any shred of courage they had left. Their minds cracked in fear as they all fled away. They had originally come here thinking about obtaining the God Transforming Pill and all sorts of other lucky chances, but right now, the Lin Ming in front of them was no different from the devil himself!

No amount of wealth or lucky chances were as valuable as their lives!

However, they didn't flee too far when they discovered a despairing truth that took away all their hopes. The entire great temple had been blocked off by the Jagged Slope Mountain Branch Division's great array formation!

They couldn't leave!!!

“Open it! Please, hurry up and open it!!”

Many of the young martial artists began screaming at the top of their lungs and there were even some martial artists that began launching attacks against the array formation. But let alone them, even Lin Ming who was skilled in the Demon Emperor's array formation still required 10 breaths of time to break through it.

“Stop panicking! Open the grand temple’s killing array!” Hall Master Situ yelled out as he saw the situation spiraling out of control.

Several Asura Divine Kingdom Branch Division Protectors were already standing above the array formation runes. At this time, Lin Ming didn’t even bother glancing at them. He only flicked his fingers and three true essence air arrows fused with his battle spirit shot out.

These true essence air arrows were silent and invisible. With his large success bronze battle spirit attached to it and with the support of his Concepts, these air arrows were equivalent to the all-out attack of a three to four stage Life Destruction powerhouse using a heaven-step treasure!

With two ‘peng peng’ sounds, two of the true essence air arrows passed through the dantian of the Asura Divine Kingdom Revolving Core martial artists that had been standing on the array runes. The energy of the battle spirit burst out from within their dantian, causing their Revolving Core crystal nucleus to shatter apart.

Both people instantly died on the spot.

As for the last and strongest first stage Life Destruction martial artist, he loudly roared, retreating as he took out a high-grade earth-step treasure sword and cut down at the true essence air arrow. However, with a ‘kacha’ sound, that high-grade earth-step

treasure was broken apart by the true essence air arrow. The air arrow didn't slow down at all, piercing through the martial artist's protective true essence before piercing through his head, causing a rain of blood to scatter out.

In an instant, that Life Destruction martial artist's spiritual sea had been completely destroyed by the true essence air arrow.